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Printed for the use of the Foreign Office. *September* 1907.

CONFIDENTIAL.

(9040.)

F.O. 413

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PART 33.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF MOROCCO.

45

April to June 1907.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of Morocco.

PART 33.

[10376]

No. 1.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 2.)

(No. 63.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 18, 1907.

WITH reference to Mr. White's despatch No. 197 of the 26th October, 1906, I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of a contract entered into by the Algiers and Morocco Company with the Moorish Government for a coal-hulk to be moored in Tangier Bay.

The terms of this contract are less favourable than those of that held by the French Company in that duty is leviable on coals sold to ships in the Bay. An annual tonnage due is to be paid on the hulk of 50 centimes per ton up to 3,000 tons, and 25 centimes per ton above that amount. The contract is for fifteen years only instead of thirty years.

On the other hand, the Moorish Government do not share in the profits, whereas in the French contract they are entitled to 20 per cent. thereof. Moreover, by the terms of the French contract the coal-hulk has to fly the Moorish flag, and on the expiration of the thirty years becomes the property of the Makhzen, whereas the present contract contains no such stipulation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 1.

Contract entered into between the Algiers and Morocco Company and the Moorish Government.

(Translation.)

Praise to God alone!

IN conformity with the Shereefian Order—may God exalt it—this contract has been made between Cid-el-Hadj Mohamed-ben-el-Arbi Torres, Deputy of our Master, may God assist him, and the Englishman Mr. Charles Jourdan, agent of the "Algiers-English Company," as per the powers he holds from the said Company, to place a hulk for the storage of European coal in the waters of the Port of Tangier—may God guard it—under the following conditions:—

Condition 1.—The said Company to have the right to place a hulk of about 3,000 tons for the storage of coal in the waters of the said port, exclusively to remain there as long as the contract entered into with it continues in force, and not to depart therefrom as is customary with hulks employed for this purpose. It (the Company) shall provide it with two boats for the employés to land in at the water-port to supply their requirements.

Condition 2.—That the Company shall only place coal on the hulk, and shall not take on board any merchandize, neither shore goods, marine goods, nor other similar merchandize of a prohibited nature, and whenever the head of the Moorish guards desires to visit the vessel for the purpose of making a search for goods other than coal, he can do so without requesting permission of the Legation of their nation, in order that the Moorish Government may be free in that respect. When merchandize or other goods are found on board they shall be confiscated to the Moorish Government as contraband and without payment, in addition a fine of double the value of the goods seized shall be paid, the contract rescinded and the vessel withdrawn.

Condition 3.—The Company shall only employ Moorish Government boats in the service of the hulk, both for carrying coal to it and from it to other steamers, and the charges for the boats shall be the same for it as for others, and it shall engage the necessary labourers from the Mahommedan subjects of this country exclusively, and should any impediment arise to prevent the Moorish Government boats from doing this work, the Company may employ other boats on the condition that the Company pays on them one-third of the amount paid for the Government lighters, until they are ready for this service and perform it. Steamers and vessels may go alongside the hulk to discharge the coals into it direct, if possible.

Condition 4.—The Moorish Government has the right to appoint one guard to remain on the hulk night and day, his pay to be 25 dollars in Moorish coin monthly, to be paid by the Company, who shall not charge it to the Moorish Government, and the Moorish Government can replace its guard by another whenever it wishes.

Condition 5.—The Company shall pay to the Moorish Government 50 centimes of a franc per ton on 3,000 tons, the capacity of the said hulk per lunar year, and should the tonnage be in excess of that amount, then it shall pay 25 centimes on each additional ton.

Condition 6.—Coal introduced into the town from the hulk is to be landed at the water-port only, and the customary duty to be paid on it, and if higher (duties) are levied, it (the Company) to be on the same footing as others. Notice must be given to the custom-house administrators of coal sold on the sea, in order that they may send a representative to estimate the duty thereon and free it for the vessel it is destined for, the duty on coal sold on the sea to be at the rate of 10 per cent.

Condition 7.—This contract to remain in force for fifteen years from the date the vessel arrives and anchors, unless any of the foregoing (restrictions) occurs to annul it. On the arrival of the hulk her tonnage must be verified, in order that it may be known on what tonnage the yearly payments are due.

Condition 8.—The said agent undertakes to abide by the stipulations of the preceding seven conditions and to follow them faithfully, they having been previously shown to him and expounded to him word by word until he knew the whole of their contents fully in Arabic and in the foreign language and understood it, so that there remained no dubiousness or obscurity (in his mind).

Done at Tangier the 15th Moharrem, 1325, equivalent to the 28th February, 1907.

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and faithful translation of the Arabic document hereto annexed.

His Britannic Majesty's Consulate, Tangier,
March 5, 1907.

[10377] No. 2.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 64.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 19, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that Colonel Muller, the Swiss Inspector-General fo the Mixed Police, arrived here on the 13th instant, and his appointment has been duly approved by His Majesty the Sultan. The French and Spanish commissioned officers have also arrived, but in spite of the fact that their nominations have been long since submitted to His Majesty for approval no steps in this direction have been taken. A verbal communication has been made to my French and Spanish colleagues to the effect that the officers might come, and that His Majesty reserved to himself the right to select those whom his Representative considered suitable and dismiss the others. It was explained to His Majesty that this way of proceeding was totally inacceptable.

Article 4 of the Act of Algeciras provides that Regulations for the working of the recruiting, discipline, instruction, and administration of the police force shall be drawn up by common agreement between the Shereefian Minister of War or his delegate, the Inspector, and the French and Spanish Instructors of the highest rank; but although, as far as the French and Spanish Governments are concerned, these Regulations are ready, the Minister of War, Sid Guebbas, declares that he has no instruction whatever to discuss the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[10378] No. 3.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 65.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 19, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 236 of the 6th December, I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of a letter I have received from Sid Torres, inclosing a Memorandum regarding a contract proposed to be entered into by the Moorish Government with the Algiers and Morocco Company in regard to the manufacture of sugar, candles, and matches in Morocco.

The agent of the Algiers and Morocco Company called upon me with a view to eliciting my support, but I pointed out to him that the proposed contract as it stands would contravene Treaty stipulations, and could not be allowed to become effective. I instanced "discussions" 4 and 14, which constituted monopolies, and "discussion" 5, which was contrary to the terms of Article 107 of the Algeciras Act.

Sid Ghannam has also spoken to me on the subject, and expressed the anxiety of the Makhzen to enter into this contract in view of their urgent need of funds. I however, informed him also that the contract could not be entered into in its present form.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Sid Torres to Mr. G. Lowther.

(After compliments.) 20 *Moharram*, 1325 (*March* 6, 1907).

I RECEIVED your letter of the 29th Hejja (12th February), informing me of the request made by M. Jourdan, agent of the Algiers and Morocco Company (Limited), that you should inform me that the said Company is registered in England as an English trading Company, &c. I took note of this, and, acting on the conversation held by Sid Benasser Ghannam with you when he saw you yesterday, I inclose herewith a Memorandum of the discussions which have taken place with the said gentleman, in order that you may bring them to the notice of your exalted Government, and inform me of their opinion thereon.

May you, &c.
(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN-EL-ARBI TORRES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Memorandum respecting a Contract between the Moorish Government and the Algiers and Morocco Company.

(Translation.)

IN conformity with the Shereefian Order, exalted of God, issued to the honoured Deputy, Cid-el-Hadj Mohammed-el-Arbi Torres, the following discussions held with M. Charles Jourdan, a French subject, concerning his request, as agent for the Algiers English Company, known as the "Algiers and Morocco Company (Limited)," for a special monopoly to the said Company to install a factory for the manufacture of sugar, candles, and matches in Morocco, were taken down in writing.

Two members of the Company were present at some of the discussions, and they promised to send the power of attorney empowering their said agent, in order that the matter might be concluded with him.

Discussion 1.

The said Company requests the Shereefian Government to grant it a plot of ground of 7,500 square metres—*i.e.*, 86·60 metres square for sixty lunar years—outside the town of Tangier—the protected—in the place it (the Government) will select.

Discussion 2.

The Company to build on this land, granted to it, a factory for the manufacture of sugar, candles, and matches. The Company to bring all necessary machinery, water-wheels, and other implements for the factory—the whole from its own capital—without any charge on the Government whatever, and place the factory in complete working order for the manufacture of the said articles. Should any rebuilding, renewal of implements, or repairs, great or small, become necessary from any cause, the expense thereof is to be borne by the Company.

Discussion 3.

The Company engages that the term of the grant of land is for sixty lunar years from the date of signature of the contract. On the expiration of that term the Company will hand over to the Moorish Government the buildings upon it, all machinery, water-wheels, and implements erected in it without any obligation (charge) to it (the Government), the entire factory becoming the property of the Moorish Government to deal with as it pleases, either to renew the grant or to hire, or to sell to the said Company, or to others as it may see fit.

Discussion 4.

The Company engages, immediately upon the contract being made, and before signature, to pay to the Moorish Government, exalted of God, 11,250,000 fr. for the monopoly conceded to it for the manufacture of sugars, candles, and matches in Morocco, since no others can manufacture them until the expiration of the contract, which is for sixty lunar years, and Agreement with the Moorish Government.

Discussion 5.

The Company engages to deliver to the Moorish Government, exalted of God, the equivalent of 3,750,000 fr. in arms, *i.e.*, cannons and their appurtenances, and rifles and rifle cartridges of the design the Moorish Government will select, and at the price at which the German and the British Governments purchase them from their factories, and this in addition to the 11,250,000 fr. specified in Discussion 4. And when the Moorish Government desires to take delivery of the arms it orders, it may appoint two engineers of any nationality it pleases to inspect and pass them in the approved manner customary amongst the European Powers.

Discussion 6.

The Company engages to pay to the Moorish Government 10 per cent. on all manufactured sugar, candles and matches going out of the factory calculated on the sales; thus, if it sells 1,000 tons, it shall pay the value of 100 tons in specie, in the coin in which the sale is effected. If the goods sold are for export or for introduction through any of the African boundaries, it shall pay 5 per cent. thereon in addition to the said 10 per cent.

Discussion 7.

The Company may not undertake any other manufactures beyond the three classes specified, except with the approval of the Moorish Government and its consent.

Discussion 8.

The Moorish Government to appoint the Oumana (Administrators) and Secretaries it desires, who shall remain in the factory to check the entries and output, to inspect all that occurs in it and inform the Moorish Government thereof at the end of each month. The said Company shall pay to the Moorish Government, at the end of each lunar month, 1,200 fr. for salaries of those the Makhzen appoints for that purpose, and this shall be one of its expenses, and the Moorish Government shall not be charged with any of it.

Discussion 9.

The Makhzen may inspect the factory at any time it pleases, so that it may be cognizant of the goods made in it. The permission of the Legation of the nation (of the Company) is not requisite for this, the Makhzen being free in this respect.

Discussion 10.

The Company shall give seed gratis to the agriculturists who plant the crops requisite for the manufacture of sugar, candles and matches, without any charge therefor, and it shall instruct them in the craft of planting, and when the crops are ready they shall purchase them from them at the current price. Those preferring to ship their own crops or sell them to others to be free to do so. Those shipping any (of these articles) shall pay the customary duty thereon.

Discussion 11.

The Company undertakes to engage the workmen requisite for the factory from the Mahommedan (subjects) of Morocco. These workmen shall not be under protection or be Mokhalatas, but authority shall be exercised over them as over other Moorish subjects. The Makhzen will give its assistance to the Company in matters which may arise.

Discussion 12.

All land employed by the Company for planting or ploughing shall only be in such parts as the Shereefian Government shall authorize. It shall pay a yearly rent thereon, whether it belongs to the Makhzen or to others, and shall pay on the crops what is paid by Moorish subjects in accordance with the established Regulations.

Discussion 13.

The Moorish Company concedes to the Company the entry free of duty at the Customs of the necessary building material, machinery, water-wheels, &c., for the factory, and the paper, string, and canvas for packing the sugar, and wood for making boxes for the candles and matches, as all this will be included in the original article, and 10 per cent. will be paid on it.

Discussion 14.

All classes of sugar, candles, and matches which merchants bring from Europe or elsewhere shall continue to enter the Moorish ports, the Company not concerning itself with anything of that. The contract of exclusive monopoly, that nobody else can manufacture these articles in Morocco so long as the contract made with it continues in force, shall suffice it.

Discussion 15.

Should the Moorish Government grant the said monopoly and find the revenues therefrom advantageous, the Company request the Moorish Government to grant it a plot of land at Rabat and another at Mazagan, each to be of the same size as that granted at Tangier, for the erection on each of them of a factory for the said purpose, thus increasing the revenue. The same course shall be followed in both those factories as regards the appointing of two Ameens and two Secretaries to check (the entries and output), and generally as regards the foregoing discussions, as in the Tangier factory.

Discussion 16.

The Company engages, should the Moorish Government introduce taxes on property, that the factory shall pay the taxes due on it and the charge fall on the Company.

Discussion 17.

In the event of a difference arising between the parties regarding the terms of the contract, each party shall appoint two Arbitrators to inquire into the question, and the decision arrived at shall be carried out without further discussion or appeal to others. In case of disagreement between the two Arbitrators, they shall appoint two Arbitrators to elucidate the matter and remove any misunderstandings on the question.

Discussion 18.

The said Company engages to accept all persons desirous of entering with it into the Concession for the factories, whether subjects of this Empire—the happy—Europeans or others, in conformity with the stipulations regarding Concessions and those set forth in the chapter on commerce.

Discussion 19.

The said Company engages to abide by the contents of the preceding eighteen discussions and to follow them faithfully, they having been previously shown to the said Agent and explained to him word by word until he knew the whole of their contents fully and understood them, so that there remained no dubiousness or confusion.

Made at Tangier. [No date.]

[10379] No. 4.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 2.)

(No. 66.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 22, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit translations of two Circulars received from Hadj Mohammed Torres, the former stating that persons firing guns between sunset and sunrise would be arrested and imprisoned, the second stating that any one creating a disturbance would be taken at once to the Khalifa of the Governor and then sent on to his Legation or Consulate if a foreigner.

Both of these measures would constitute innovations on the practice hitherto always adhered to, and my colleagues and myself were of opinion that they could not be permitted.

At a meeting of the Corps Diplomatique it was decided to send a joint note, pointing out that the measures proposed were opposed to the Treaties in force, and observing that under these circumstances the orders should be withdrawn.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

Sid Torres to Mr. G. Lowther.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) 25 *Moharram*, 1325 (*March* 10, 1907).

I HAVE to inform your Excellency that the Governor of the town has issued stringent orders prohibiting all but official firing (of guns), whether outside the town or inside, from sunset to sunrise, as it troubles the minds of the guards surrounding the town, whether the firing is for joy or otherwise. Any one firing between those hours will be arrested and imprisoned; it is therefore requested that your Excellency will warn those protégés over whom you have authority to abstain from firing guns so that harm may not reach them.

May you, &c.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN-EL-ARBI TORRES.

Inclosure 2 in No. 4.

Sid Torres to Mr. G. Lowther.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) 29 *Moharram*, 1325 (*March* 14, 1907).

IN accordance with the extreme interest the Makhzen has in arranging the guards and putting them on a footing which will result in the calming of trouble and restoring tranquillity, a Shereefian order has been issued to me and to the Vizier Sid Mohammed-el-Guebbas with particular instructions on this subject, and an explanation of the means by which the principal object in placing the guards both within the town of Tangier and without will be attained. That is by keeping under observation all those who cause trouble or commit assaults, or create disputes in any form or manner, so that the guard shall arrest any one committing any of these faults and convey him to the Khalifa of the Basha of the town, who has a place appointed for him at the head of the Outer Soko, and who will send him on to his authority. Thus, if he is a Moorish subject, he will be sent to the Governor's Tribunal; and if the arrested person is not a Moorish subject, he will be sent to the Consulate which exercises jurisdiction over him. The said explanation also contains the following: That one of the duties of the guards shall be that they shall take over arms carried by persons wishing to enter the town, and prohibit (the entry) of all classes of arms except sporting arms, and those carrying the latter shall be allowed to enter with them on their showing them to the guards. This Regulation to remain in force until the Regulations on this matter which are now under discussion shall be concluded. I have to inform your Excellency of this, as well as the other friendly Representatives, in order that you may be aware thereof and give your assistance in this matter.

May you, &c.

(Signed) MOHAMMED BEN-EL-ARBI TORRES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 4.

Doyen of Diplomatic Corps to Sid Torres.

(Traduction.) *Tanger, le* 22 *Mars*, 1907.

LES Représentants des Puissances ont reçu individuellement les Circulaires des 10 et 14 Mars, et ont décidé de se réunir pour en délibérer. Tout en reconnaissant le zèle dont font preuve les autorités Marocaines dans le but de faire régner l'ordre en attendant l'organisation de la nouvelle police, le Corps Diplomatique ne saurait admettre que les étrangers fussent appréhendés et mis en état d'arrestation comme il est dit dans la Circulaire du 14. Le Corps Diplomatique rappelle que les étrangers et les protégés étrangers ne relèvent que de l'autorité Consulaire conformément aux Traités et à la Convention de Madrid.

En conséquence, le Corps Diplomatique appelle l'attention de votre Excellence sur la nécessité de rapporter les deux mesures précitées.

(Signé) MARTENS FERRAO.

[10390] No. 5.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 67.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 22, 1907.

THE only development in the question of the French attempt to establish wireless telegraphy stations here, since my despatch No. 59 of the 9th instant, has been that the Customs authorities here have refused to admit some iron posts for the building.

Asked by the French Legation to explain on what authority these were detained, the reply was given that these iron posts might be used for an object forbidden by His Majesty the Sultan. The French Minister has entered a strong protest, and claims 500 fr. a-day damage. At Daralbaida and Saffi some iron destined for the construction of the wireless telegraphy building has also been detained by the custom-house.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[10381] No. 6.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 68.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 22, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 64 of the 19th instant, I have the honour to report that the French and Spanish Ministers to-day informed me that the Sultan's approval of the officers selected for the police had just reached them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[10382] No. 7.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 69. Confidential.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 23, 1907.

I RECENTLY asked Commander-in-chief Vice-Admiral Sir A. G. Curzon-Howe whether he could, without inconvenience, send over an officer expert in wireless telegraphy to examine the construction recently erected which was supposed to be intended for that purpose.

Lieutenant Goldie examined the site and building on the 18th instant, and his report, with a copy of which I have been furnished, and which I have the honour to transmit herewith, may be of interest to you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Lieutenant Goldie to Captain Hayes-Sadler.

Sir, *"Drake," at Gibraltar, March* 19, 1907.

IN accordance with orders received from the Commander-in-chief, Atlantic fleet, I have the honour to report that I visited Tangier in torpedo-boat No. 96 on Monday, the 18th instant, and shortly after my arrival proceeded with the Secretary of the Embassy to inspect the site and building of the alleged wireless telegraphy station, and I beg to submit the following observations to your notice :—

2. The house, which is only just completed in building, is empty, and does not point in any way to having been built expressly for a small power station. It could, however, soon be made suitable for the accommodation of two or three operators and a small installation.

3. The situation is chosen with a view to having a damp subsoil, which would

enhance the value of the electrical earth. This may be rather necessary, as the climate, and hence the ground, are very dry for the six months of hot weather.

4. The site is in a small valley, but this, I think, would in no way depreciate the sending power, as it would be very easy to erect a mast on a position on the surrounding elevation (a distance of not more than 200 yards in the direction required), and running the aerial to the mast. There are no great heights to be surmounted in the direction of Dar-al-Baida and Mogador, distant respectively 160 and 328 miles, so that a small power station of 10 horse-power would be sufficient, or 5 horse-power if signals requiring to be sent from Tangier to Mogador were retransmitted at Dar-al-Baida.

5. The directional system could not be used at this site, as the space fenced in would not permit of sufficiently long wires. No start has yet been made to erect a mast or tower at the site or any position on the surrounding elevation.

6. Taking into consideration the information known to the Embassy at Tangier, everything points to the likelihood of the site inspected by me being eventually intended for a wireless telegraphy station capable of sending at least to Dar-al-Baida, and thence to Mogador.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. LEIGH GOLDIE.

[10384] No. 8.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 71.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 24, 1907.

FURTHER particulars reached me late last night regarding the murder of the French doctor at Marrakesh, contained in a letter addressed by the British Consular Agent in that city to His Majesty's Consul at Daralbaida; a copy of this letter is herewith inclosed.

Mr. Lennox makes somewhat light of the attack on the house in which he was living, but from a native source I hear that the mob went there with the intention of killing him, and the people were driven off by the Governor's soldiers.

My French colleague maintains that the natives had for some time been incited against Doctor Mauchamp by a German named Holzmann, who has practised medicine there, and whose interests had been affected by the gratuitous services given by his French rival. This person was, I believe, well known in Turkey at one time as an "agent provocateur."

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Mr. Lennox to Consul Madden.

Dear Mr. Madden, *Marrakesh, March* 19, 1907.

YOU will have heard through Mr. Spinney before this reaches you of what has taken place here to-day. I will try to report to you exactly what I know of this sad affair.

As you know, there has been some talk these days about the French introducing wireless telegraphy, &c., but there was no appearance of any movement, nor could I hear of anything being done, because I have been making inquiries for several days.

It was only to-day I was being told that the Government evidently had suspicions, and were on the alert. This man was still talking to me at 11, when the Governor sent a soldier, asking me to come at once. My soldier said there must be something wrong, as the soldier seemed excited. I walked quietly to the Governor's house, saying nothing to the soldier until we neared the Governor's house, and he said: "They have hoisted a flagstaff and white flag on the house of the French doctor." I saw it quite distinctly in the distance, and saw people on the house-tops looking at the flag.

I found the Governor with his two sons; he sent off the young one to the doctor's house, then told me that there was a great deal of excitement over this flag, and that a great crowd of people had gathered round the house. I said: had they sent to the doctor. The French Consular Agent, a Moor, said they had. We sat a little waiting, when the young son comes in saying the French doctor had been in the dispensary, and went to his house, and was murdered by the mob. He said he had tried to rescue him, but failed, although he had some twenty-five to thirty soldiers with him; but they were unarmed. He and his men were stoned. I said they must secure the body, and put it somewhere under guard, and guard the house. The eldest son, who has been acting for his father, sprang up and gathered all the soldiers he could find, and with great difficulty secured the body and conveyed it to the dispensary and put on a guard of soldiers. He took off some of his own clothes to cover the body. He had great difficulty in accomplishing this, and was freely pelted with stones, as by this time the mob had become very large. I urged them to have the flag removed, as it was the centre of attraction, and the cause of all the row. The Governor and his son said they were afraid to enter the house of a Frenchmen. They had sent soldier after soldier for the Consular Agent, but he was in the country. While we were discussing what to do next, the French Consular Agent came. He refused to go near the house. At first he said he was afraid of the crowd, but latterly he said he could not enter the house as he had no authority, and that it was the Government who must do that. When we were trying to persuade him to go with the Governor's sons, notaries, &c., we were told that the mob had entered the house, torn down the flag, and were busy plundering.

I urged upon them to arm as many men as they could, and occupy the house at any cost. They were afraid to use force lest they should make matters worse, but at last they consented, and the young son of the Governor armed a force of men with European rifles and with difficulty occupied the house. They were joined and assisted by some armed soldiers from Mulai-el-Haffid. There were several shots fired before the house was cleared, and the mob was pushed back. Before this was done the house was plundered—to what extent I do not know. A number of men were arrested with goods in their hands. After this the people began to disperse, and the shops were opened. The doctor was killed about 12 o'clock. A friend of mine met him going towards his house from the dispensary and pleaded with him not to go, but return to the dispensary, as the crowd was so great. His interpreter told this to him, but he replied in an angry tone, and the Moor cursed the Moors and Makhzen and said they would go. I heard that when he reached the crowd he drew his revolver, but he was soon cut down. Had he only remained in the dispensary and sent his servant to remove the pole, the whole thing would have died down and the people would have gone away. I am told by a number of different people that two or three Frenchmen were on the roof of the Jewish school (alliance) in the Mellah with some kind of instrument on a tripod which was turned towards the pole on the doctor's house, and they had their watches in their hands and were watching the pole. The people outside saw them, and there was a rush made towards the Mellah, and some little disturbance, and they took down their instrument. I am told, too, that in a very short time after the Governor of the Kasbah arrived at the Mellah with [*sic*] a force of men. He closed the gate, and kept guard and order there.

The flag I saw, or whatever it was, was white; others say it was changed to that of different colours. The whole thing took place so quickly and without any warning. It is most astonishing how quickly a crowd gathers, and where the people come from. The Governor was puzzled about what to do with the body. The Consul-Agent cleared out at once. I sent to M. Lassallas, but he was not to be found, so about 5 o'clock the Governor asked me to try to see some of the French people about the doctor, as I have the key of the cemetery. I came from his house to Sir H. Maclean's house, where we are at present, and was talking with Mrs. L., when a row got up at the door, and the boys began to throw stones at the door and windows. There were several soldiers, whom the Governor had sent to protect the house, and some four who had come with me sitting in the doorway. They had great difficulty in closing the doors; there were two or three shots fired from the house and one boy wounded, and the crowd began to clear; then the Governor's son arrived with more soldiers, and in a few minutes the whole thing was over. One of my men, when firing his second shot, got one of his fingers blown off by his rifle bursting in his hands. The windows and shutters have suffered somewhat. The Frenchmen in the Mellah went to Mulai-el-Haffid, and were escorted back by soldiers. All the English have been safely kept in their own houses. Other Europeans were taken to their houses without any

disturbance. It is very unfortunate there was a row here in Sir Harry's house, but I suppose some ill-natured character caught sight of me and started throwing stones; but from the windows I saw only boys. The Governor has given guards to all Europeans, and has ordered all the Chiefs of each district to arm their householders and patrol the streets through the night, so that I am certain there will be no further trouble. Had the Governor taken the responsibility to remove the pole and flag at once, the thing would have died down. It was most unwise of the doctor to venture out alone. His man is now saying that because the Germans and others have written in the papers that they were going to start the wireless telegraphy, and were watching them here, he said "Let us put up a pole just for fun." Even if this were so, or if they really were going to start the telegraph, he ought to have sent and had the pole removed whenever he heard that a crowd had gathered.

I sent off a special courier at 1 to Mr. Spinney, to let you know at once. It is now 11 o'clock and all seems quiet. We are well guarded both outside and inside, and prepared for anything.

Wednesday, 9·30.—We had a very quiet night and all is quiet to-day. I am going now with one of the Frenchmen to see Mulai-el-Haffid. The French people profess complete ignorance of the pole, of its uses, &c.

Excuse haste.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) A. LENNOX.

[10506] No. 9.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 73.)

Sir, *Tangier, March 25, 1907.*

AT the invitation of the German Minister, M. Popp called upon him two days ago. Dr. Rosen, it seems, began by explaining to M. Popp the reasons for which it would always be impossible for him to carry through his scheme for the establishment of wireless telegraphy unless he had the support of Germany, and then proposed to M. Popp that it should be formed into a Franco-German Company. M. Popp refused and suggested that the claims of those countries which had previously interested themselves in this question here should be considered, and that a Company should be formed of French, German, British, and Spanish capitalists, with a Frenchman as President. Dr. Rosen objected to the introduction of Spain, on the grounds that that country did not manufacture wireless telegraphy, but M. Popp adhered to his proposal, making it clear that he wished, if possible, that German interests should be in a minority on the Board. Dr. Rosen said it would be necessary to introduce a condition to the effect that the President and Vice-President of the Company could not be of the same nationality, but M. Popp declined to consider this suggestion.

A good deal of conversation appears to have followed as to the necessity or not of the matter being submitted to adjudication, and M. Popp, I understand, eventually admitted the necessity of this, but urged that it must be agreed that an article must be introduced into the "Cahier des charges," to the effect that the present Company would be compensated if their plant was not utilized. Dr. Rosen desired that M. Popp should cease all works connected with the present installations, but the latter declined to make any engagement to this effect and insisted, as a condition to the proposed arrangement, that the orders that had been given here and at some of the ports to prohibit the introduction of the plant should be rescinded. Dr. Rosen's protestations that he had nothing to do with these orders were of no avail, for apparently they were in two cases given at the instigation of the German Consul and here on the advice of a German Engineer.

The above informal negotiations have been communicated to me by the French Minister, who added that he had received a telegram from Paris urging the advisability of the Company being an international one. He has not yet seen Dr. Rosen but expected his visit in connection with the matter in the course of the next few days.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[10507] No. 10.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 2.)

(No. 74.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 26, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 71 of the 24th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of two letters from the Consular Agent at Marrakesh, forwarded to me by His Majesty's Consular Agent at Daralbaida, containing further particulars in connection with the assassination of Dr. Mauchamp and the subsequent attack on the house occupied by Mr. Lennox.

Mr. Lennox, whilst rejecting the allegations of the Viceroy of Marrakesh and the Frenchmen there that the Governor of the town had actually been the cause of the disturbance, is of opinion that had that official displayed more energy and courage and promptly adopted proper measures for dispersing the crowd, order could have been immediately restored, and Dr. Mauchamp's life would have been saved.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Mr. Lennox to Vice-Consul Spinney.

Dear Mr. Spinney, *Marrakesh, March* 20, 1907.

LASSALAS called in the morning to discuss the situation and asked me to accompany him to Mulay-el-Hafeed, then to the school-house, the doctor's house, and then to the dispensary to seal it. Then afterwards we were busy dressing the body and putting it in the coffin. They are sending it to Mazagan, and will leave about 10·30 to-night. Mulay-el-Hafeed is sending mounted men, &c. All has been quite quiet all day, only about 5·30 three of the Germans rode through Jema Alfna to the dispensary to see the doctor put in the coffin, and some boys began to shout after them; then it happened that Mr. Kunz followed on his way to his house, and he received a few stones, but took refuge here, since that all has been quiet.

Lassalas at first said there was no pole or reed or flag, then he admitted there was a reed put up for a joke on the Germans, who have been reporting that day that they were going to introduce wireless telegraphy. I asked why the doctor went out when he heard that there was a crowd at his house. He said the doctor was a novice in the country and did not know Arabic, and was very intrepid and energetic. Afterwards he and the other Frenchmen tried to make me believe that Hadj Abdslam sent to the doctor and told him to go to the house and remove the flag. I saw the supposed pole, it is only two or three reeds bound together, about 5½ yards long, and there were two small cross-pieces near the top. They all deny that there was any white rag or flag; there was none to-day, but it may have been removed.

Shortly after I sent my note by special courier yesterday, Hadj Abdslam's eldest son returned. He with great difficulty rescued the body from the mob, which they had stripped naked, and he conveyed it to the dispensary, covering it with some of his own clothes. He was badly pelted with stones and cursed. I urged them to arm their men and use force to dispel the mob and occupy the house, but it was only after they heard that the mob had entered the house that they armed the soldiers, and, headed by the Khalifa's young son, occupied the house. Mulay-el-Hafeed's men, who had come without arms, had to flee, but returned with their rifles. One or the other fired a few shots and the crowd gave way, and they entered and cleared the house, which by this time was plundered. What helplessness and indiscretion in the Governor's house you could not conceive. Had they sent out arms at once, and called together the men of the different districts, the mob would have been dispelled at once. I did not get home until 5, the Governor would not let me out, and then he wished me to see some of the Frenchmen about what was to be done with the corpse. I got safely to the house, and everything seemed to be quiet; the soldiers who came with me sat down in the doorway with the others that the Governor had sent to protect the house; the door was open, and in a few minutes there was a rush for the door, and a volley of stones from a host of boys. The soldiers had difficulty in getting the door closed. Omar seized a rifle and fired one shot, next the rifle burst in his hands and blew off a part of one finger. The boys pelted the window-shutters, I fired two shots from one window, they got a fright

and withdrew somewhat. The Governor's son arrived on horseback with a number of men, fired a shot or two, and all was over in about 10 minutes. We had a large guard to spend the night in quietness.

The French and Mulay-el-Hafeed put all blame on Hadj Abdslam, who had never been on friendly terms with the doctor; but Mulay-el-Hafeed has been on bad terms with Hadj Abdslam for several months. The people so far as I can learn blame Mulay-el-Hafeed. There has been a good deal of excitement about the French for a few days, and no doubt Hadj Abdslam was on the alert and the people too, not knowing what was going to be done, so when they saw a reed of some sort on the doctor's house, with a flag of some kind (the testimony in favour of a flag is too strong to believe the Frenchmen's word to the contrary), they instantly gathered together and began to shout. Had the people not been in a nervous condition, the presence of a reed on a house would not have raised them.

Thursday morning.—The party for Mazagan left between 2 and 3 with a strong escort of horsemen. Town is quiet. I have not gone out, waiting to see what the country people may do who come into the market to-day. Assor has been in the foundac yesterday and to-day. I think all is over now, but I shall use all the pressure I can on the Governor to secure the murderers and ringleaders.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ALAN LENNOX.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Mr. Lennox to Consul Madden.

Dear Mr. Madden, *Marrakesh, March* 21, 1907.

I ACCOMPANIED M. Lassalas to see Mulai Hafid. We had a long and animated discussion on the cause of the row. Mulai Hafid, M. Lassalas, and an Italian were convinced that it was caused by the Governor having been informed by the Germans that the French were about to introduce wireless telegraphy, and on the strength of this he gave orders to the Mukaddanim of the districts to be on the watch for anything new, and also to prevent any strange Europeans from hiring houses. They argue that the Mukaddanim must have created an anti-French feeling among their householders and the people, and that it only required the hoisting of a reed on the doctor's house to gather the mob, who, knowing that they had the sympathy of the Governor, were bold and daring. This is putting their argument in the mildest form, as they all declared at first that the Governor made a plot, raised the mob, and sent the doctor to his house in order that he might be murdered; and this will be the report that has been sent to Fez and Tangier. After a great deal of talk, Mulai Hafid admitted he had no proof against the Governor, further than that he had given orders to the Mukaddanim to be on the watch. Mulai Hafid has not been on friendly terms with the Governor for several months, and no doubt this accounts for the position he has taken up. The doctor, too, was not on friendly terms with the Governor, and it was reported that it was about some case with the Governor that the doctor went to France and only returned a week ago. I am certain that the Governor had no share in the origin of the row any further than I have stated, nor did he send the doctor to the house to remove the flag, nor was he in sympathy with the mob. The French and Mulai Hafid declare that the sons of the Governor were not molested, which is a perversion of facts, for when the Governor's young son went first with a body of soldiers, unarmed, he was driven back with stones. Mulai Hafid's soldiers, too, were driven back and had to flee. When the eldest son went to rescue the body, which had been stripped by this time, he had great difficulty in effecting this, and was badly stoned. It was only when the young son armed his men with rifles and Mulai Hafid's men returned with rifles, and the two forces fired a few shots, that the crowd withdrew and they occupied the house. At the first sign of the row, when the flag was hoisted at 10 o'clock, the Governor sent his young son to Mulai Hafid with the news. Mulai Hafid replied that they were not to touch the flag or interfere with the doctor, but if it was true there was a flag he would send and ask the doctor to remove it, and if he did not he would send to the Sultan; but his father must take every precaution he could, and use every means in his power to prevent a disturbance.

The only thing that can be said against the Governor was his slackness and cowardice in not dispersing the mob at once and placing an armed guard in front of the house, and raising all the force he has to quell the disturbance. Such helplessness,

such fear and indecision, you cannot conceive when they sent for me. They did not know what to do; they said they were afraid to use force lest the whole town should rise. The Governor himself is an old man, has been ill for several months, and is incapable of the office. His mental forces have failed very much, and he is weak and frail. Some two months ago a letter came from the Sultan appointing his eldest son, a learned "Fiki," to act for his father. He is a quiet man, a student, and acted as Cadi for nine months during the absence of the Chief Cadi; but he is not at all suited for the post of Governor, and quite incapable of taking the firm hand that this large city requires. Had we had a strong, resourceful man, this affair would never have taken place.

I visited the doctor's house, saw the reed which caused the trouble. It was two or three reeds tied together and measuring about 5½ yards, and there were two short cross-pieces tied on the top. It was fastened on the top of a small tower on the roof of the house in a very conspicuous position. There was no rag or flag yesterday and the French deny its existence, but the testimony in favour of a flag of some kind is very strong from all different sources. The Frenchmen's reason is that it was a joke on the Germans, who have been spreading reports about wireless telegraphy, &c. The instrument on the school-house they say was a sun-dial and they were taking the time.

When M. Lassalas called yesterday morning I asked why the doctor had gone to his house when he knew there was a mob. He replied the doctor was very intrepid and strongheaded, and did not know the people nor their language. Now this is just the opinion many of us had, but later on with the other Frenchmen M. Lassalas declared that the Governor purposely sent the doctor to his house in order to meet his end.

As to the cause of the row, the erection of the reed on the roof would not have done it, as our boys might do that any day; but for several days there had been a strong feeling of resentment against the French caused by wild reports and also by the presence of several Frenchmen, and also by some having had a large picnic in one of the gardens attended by a number of native women, so that the people were in a nervous condition watching events, and the erection of a reed would lead them to conclude all sorts of things. The doctor did not erect the reed, but one of the men that came the other day. As to their motives, I only state what I have seen and heard, and leave you to form your own conclusions. They might do it for a joke. They might be feeling their way "Allah Allam."

The doctor was very much cut up in the face and abdomen; there were over twenty dagger wounds.

The house was emptied, only tables and broken chairs and cupboard and bedsteads left; the windows are smashed, and even the iron gratings in some windows broken and carried off.

The body was put into a coffin yesterday afternoon, all the French, several of the Germans, and myself were present. A Frenchman and an Italian left for Mazagan with the corpse about 2 or 3 o'clock accompanied by a strong escort of mounted men from Mulai Hafid and the Governor. The town was quite quiet all day yesterday and during the night. I have pressed upon the Governor the pressing necessity of seizing the murderers and the ringleaders of the mob. Strong representations must be made to the Sultan for the appointment of a capable man as Governor, or the lives of all Europeans will be in constant danger.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ALAN LENNOX.

[10341] No. 11.

Sir A. Nicolson to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 2.)

(No. 148. Confidential.)

Sir, *St. Petersburgh, March* 21, 1907.

THE French Ambassador has on more than one occasion recently alluded to the hesitation on the part of M. Isvolsky to engage that the Russian Representative at Tangier would cast his vote in favour of the French candidate for the post of engineer, should the question have to be decided by the majority of the Diplomatic Body.

M. Bompard told me yesterday that on the previous evening he had received a telegram from Paris saying that information had reached the Quai d'Orsay from Rome

to the effect that M. Isvolsky had informed the Italian Ambassador here that, in the event of the question being put to the vote, the Russian Representative would abstain. In these circumstances, the Italian Foreign Minister had said that it would be difficult for the Italian Minister at Tangier to go further than the Representative of the ally of France, and that the former probably would adopt a similar course.

M. Bompard had seen M. Isvolsky yesterday morning, who had said that there must have been some misunderstanding, as his instructions to the Russian Chargé d'Affaires were that he should endeavour to assist in some amicable compromise being effected over the question of the engineer, but that, if this failed and the matter had to be decided by a vote, he should give his vote in favour of the French candidate. M. Bompard was quite satisfied with this declaration, and I may add that the Italian Ambassador told me that he understood that the Italian Representative would also support the French candidate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

[10420] No. 12.

Sir F. Lascelles to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 2.)

(No. 130. Confidential.)

Sir, *Berlin, March* 29, 1907.

ON the 26th instant M. Lecomte, the French Chargé d'Affaires, formally announced to Herr von Tschirschky that the French Government had determined to occupy Ujda until they should have obtained from the Moroccan Government reparation for the murder of a French subject at Marrakesh, as well as for a number of other cases in which they had reason to complain. M. Lecomte has told me that Herr von Tschirschky replied that it was a question between France and Morocco in which no other Power had a right to interfere, but he hoped, at the same time, that the French Government would not drive matters to an extremity. In talking the matter over with me, Herr von Tschirschky said that no one could object to the French Government taking such steps as they thought necessary to obtain reparation for the murder of one of their subjects. He hoped that the occupation of any portion of Morocco would not last long, but the French seemed to be in such a state of nervous tension about everything connected with Morocco that it was difficult not to feel some apprehension lest, having once had the excuse of obtaining a foothold in Morocco, they might attempt to find some excuse for remaining there. I said that it could not be expected that France, with her great interests in Morocco, should remain indifferent to the murder of her subjects. The recent speeches in the French Chamber had brought a severe indictment against the Shereefian Government, and I did not see any reason to doubt the assurance which the French Government had given that the occupation of Ujda would be merely temporary. It surely could not be to the interests of France to create a situation in Morocco which might lead to complications with other countries.

Herr von Tschirschky said that he did not think that the French Government had any wish to create complications, but the nervousness of the French people with regard to Morocco had been exemplified by the urgent representations they had made to the different Powers about the selection of the Belgian engineer: "Ils ont fait une scène à Pétersbourg. Ils ont fait du tapage à Rome."

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. C. LASCELLES.

[10500] No. 13.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 2.)

(No. 63.)

Sir, *Madrid, March* 30, 1907.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 11 of the 27th instant, I have the honour to forward a translation of an official communication to the Spanish press on the situation created by the murder of Dr. Mauchamp at Morocco City.

M. Daeschner, French Chargé d'Affaires, thinks the approval by Spain of the measures taken might have been expressed in more emphatic language; but he is satisfied on the whole with the attitude of the Spanish Government in the matter. He

noticed, however, in the language held to him by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the same nervousness and fear of the possible consequences of the occupation of Ujda as had struck me during the interview which I had with his Excellency before he received M. Daeschner on the 26th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) M. DE BUNSEN.

Inclosure in No. 13.

Extract from the "Imparcial" of March 28, 1907.

(Translation.)

THE following note was issued yesterday to the press at the Ministry of State:—

"The Minister of State received in due course notice from His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris and the French Chargé d'Affaires at this Court of the measures taken by the Government of the French Republic in consequence of the assassination of M. Mauchamp at Marrakesh.

"It is clear that the Cabinet at Paris are anxious to put an end to the attempts that are continually being made upon their countrymen in Morocco, and to obtain satisfaction for the crimes already committed. As to the means employed to this end, the request made to Sid Mahomed Torres that the Police Regulations should be approved, and that police should enter upon their duties without further delay, appears to be all the more appropriate, as His Majesty's Government are taking steps to urge the Makhzen to adopt the necessary measures for the formation and mobilization of the police, under the instruction of foreign officers, referred to in Article 1 of the Act of Algeciras.

"As regards the occupation of Ujda, its object and nature are clearly defined in the declarations of the French Government.

"In view of the close ties of cordiality existing between Spain and France, especially in matters concerning Morocco, and of the common interests of foreigners in that Empire, His Majesty's Government cannot but hope, and their indications to the Makhzen will be to that effect, that the Paris Cabinet will obtain due reparation."

[10610] No. 14.

M. Geoffray to Foreign Office.—(Received April 2.)

(Particulière.)

Ambassade de France à Londres,
le 29 Mars, 1907.

Cher Sir Charles Hardinge,

JE pense que vous êtes absent de Londres; c'est pourquoi je vous envoie, ci-joint, au lieu de vous la porter moi-même, à titre particulier et confidentiel, le texte de la lettre que le Gouvernement Français vient de charger notre Ministre à Tanger de remettre au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères du Maroc à la suite du meurtre de notre compatriote, le Dr. Mauchamp.

Croyez, &c.
(Signé) GEOFFRAY.

Inclosure in No. 14.

Letter communicated by the French Minister at Tangier to Ben Sliman.

JE n'ai pas besoin de retracer à votre Excellence les circonstances particulièrement horribles dans lesquelles le Dr. Mauchamp, citoyen Français, médecin du dispensaire de Marrakech, a été assassiné dans cette ville, le 19 de ce mois. Un tel crime lâchement commis par une foule fanatique a provoqué partout la plus profonde indignation. D'autres malheurs seraient d'ailleurs à déplorer si les résidents étrangers traqués et assiégés n'avaient pas réussi à trouver un asile.

Dès à présent il apparaît clairement que le Gouverneur de Marrakech, Hadj Abdessalam-el-Ouazazi, dont j'ai déjà réclamé la révocation à propos de l'attentat dont a été victime le Français Lassallas, avait été prévenu des intentions de la foule et de son excitation, et que, par malveillance, ou tout au moins par une négligence

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[10383] No. 13*.

Mr G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 2.)

(No. 70.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 23, 1907.

THE inclosed copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Lennox, British Consular Agent at Marakesh, to the British Vice-Consul at Mazagan, gives a complete account of the barbarous murder by the mob at Morocco city of M. Mauchamp, a French doctor of that city.

This unfortunate incident only occurred on the 19th instant, and it is possible that some further information may come to light and explain the fury of the mob.

"The pole with the white cloth" to which reference is made had been put up for a M. Gentil, a French professor, who was taking observations. It appears that the crowd wanted also to deal with M. Gentil, and from the last news received this gentleman and his wife were besieged in their house.

I much fear that the victim brought his death on himself by his carelessness, and there is reason to believe that the French are annoying the natives very much by their hydrographical and other observations, wireless telegraphy stations, &c.

This incident is particularly to be deplored as it follows very closely upon another attack quite recently upon a Frenchman named M. de Gironcourt at Fez. He imprudently photographed a group of Moors who, becoming excited, pursued him with stones, and he narrowly escaped with his life.

Immediately on hearing the news of the murder of Dr. Mauchamp I and some of my colleagues went to convey to my French colleague our condolences and sympathy, and he confirmed the news which is conveyed in this despatch. Indeed it was through Mr. Lennox that he had received it. He added that he could give us a final assurance that the pole and white cloth complained of has nothing whatever to do with wireless telegraphy. There had been no attempt or intention to establish this at Morocco city.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 13*.

Mr. Lennox to Vice-Consul Spinney.

Dear Mr. Spinney, *Hadj Abdslam's House, March* 19, 1907.

I HAVE to send you very sad news. French doctor murdered now by a mob that gathered round his house because they had erected a pole with a white cloth. I was sent for at 11·30 by Hadj Abdslam, and on the way saw the pole on the doctor's house. Hadj Abdslam said the people were very excited, and had gathered in a large company. He sent off his son to ascertain what was the meaning of the pole and the row, and in a short time he came back saying that he had found the doctor lying dead near the house, and the crowd was clamouring to get into the house. He did his utmost to reach him and rescue him, but with the fifty soldiers he could not reach him or disperse the crowd. The older son who is acting for his father has now gone with more soldiers to take care of the corpse and try to quiet the people, and told [*sic*] that there were three Frenchmen on the roof of the French school in the Mellah using an instrument of some kind. The whole thing has taken place so quickly. The doctor was in his dispensary; a friend of ours met him going to the house to see what the row was. This friend pleaded with him to return to the dispensary and send one of the men to take down the pole, but his native interpreter from Tangier said something in French, and the doctor went on to the house. I fancy he reached the crowd and they set on him at once. A more unfortunate thing could not have happened.

I am sending this at once by a special courier. I have heard that the body has been carried off by native servants and taken care of. The Acting Governor has not returned yet. Mellah is closed; there was a rush made for it. Shall write in detail to-morrow. Please write at once to Tangier and Dar-al-Baida.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. LENNOX.

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coupable, il n'a pas pris les mesures propres à protéger la vie de mon compatriote. Je demande, donc, en premier lieu, que ce Pacha soit immédiatement arrêté et conduit à Tanger, où il sera mis en prison jusqu'à ce que l'enquête détermine si sa responsabilité n'est pas encore plus engagée.

J'ai chargé M. Kouri, le nouveau Consul de France à Mogador, de se rendre à Marrakech pour procéder à cette enquête. Il devra rechercher les auteurs du crime et établir le rôle des autorités. Le Maghzen devra faciliter cette enquête par tous les moyens en son pouvoir, et fournir à mon envoyé l'escorte et l'appui qui lui sont nécessaires.

Les individus reconnus coupables à la suite de l'enquête devront être punis, mon Gouvernement se réservant d'ailleurs d'apprécier les punitions.

Une juste indemnité devra être payée pour la famille de la victime. De même une indemnité sera versée au Gouvernement Français en réparation de l'offense qu'il a reçue par le meurtre d'un homme auquel il avait confié une mission officielle; cette somme sera affectée à l'établissement d'un hôpital destiné à perpétuer la mémoire du Dr Mauchamp à Marrakech. Le Gouvernement Français fera connaître au Maghzen le chiffre de ces indemnités.

Le crime honteux commis contre un bienfaiteur de la population de Marrakech suit l'attentat dont la foule à Fez s'est rendue coupable contre un voyageur Français, M. de Gironcourt, et nous rappelle l'impunité laissée aux assassins de M. Charbonnier et aux agresseurs de M. Lassallas. L'inertie coupable des autorités démontre l'état d'anarchie dans laquelle se trouve ce pays et les excitations dangereuses propagées dans les milieux indigènes. En présence d'une telle situation, le Gouvernement de la République m'a chargé de faire connaître à votre Excellence qu'il ne saurait tolérer plus longtemps les tergiversations et les délais employés sans cesse pour ajourner l'exécution des réformes auxquelles Sa Majesté a adhéré. Je lui rappelle que, malgré plusieurs démarches collectives du Corps Diplomatique, le Règlement de la police n'a pas encore été mis en discussion, par la faute du Maghzen, qui n'a pas envoyé les pouvoirs nécessaires à cet effet au Ministre de la Guerre Chérifien, bien que celui-ci soit actuellement présent à Tanger.

Le Gouvernement de la République entend que ces pouvoirs soient donnés immédiatement et que toutes les mesures soient prises pour organiser sans plus de retard la nouvelle police.

De même, notre Consul à Fez a signalé souvent à votre Excellence l'importance que nous attachons à l'établissement d'une force de police dans la région frontière de l'Algérie, conformément aux accords de 1901 et 1902, qui en ont déterminé les conditions générales. Je vous ai écrit le 22 Août, le 13 et le 14 Octobre derniers, à ce sujet et je vous ai fait connaître que si le Maghzen ne tenait pas ses engagements nous serions forcés de prendre nous-mêmes des mesures pour la protection de notre territoire et de nos ressortissants. Mon Gouvernement, n'ayant reçu ni réponse ni satisfaction sur ces points, est décidé à faire mettre en application ces accords sans délai et à organiser cette police de façon à réprimer les attaques, les pillages, et les vexations de toute nature dont souffrent nos tribus, et à rétablir les relations entre les habitants des deux territoires.

Sur un autre point des possessions Françaises, dans la Mauritanie et l'Adrar, l'action du Maghzen a suscité de graves hostilités dans lesquelles des soldats Français ont trouvé la mort. Le Chérif Moulay Idriss, Agent du Maghzen dans ces régions et chargé de mission par lui, ainsi que vous l'avez reconnu, devra être officiellement désavoué par des lettres Chérifiennes, concertées avec ma Légation, et rappelé, afin qu'il ne continue pas, au nom de Sa Majesté, à soulever des rébellions armées contre les Français.

En outre, des mesures sévères seront prises pour réprimer la contrebande de guerre que le Maghzen entretient sur les confins, et les envois qu'il fait adresser subrepticement au Cheik Ma-el-Ainin. Le Maghzen n'ignore pas que ces armes et munitions sont employées contre nos troupes.

J'ajoute que, depuis longtemps, les réclamations portées par nos ressortissants sont restées systématiquement sans réponse ou n'ont pas obtenu justice. Notre Consul à Fez en a remis à votre Excellence la liste détaillée. La mauvaise volonté qui s'est ainsi manifestée contre nos compatriotes, de la part des autorités, a fait naître des idées dangéreuses propagées dans la foule. C'est dans ces sentiments qu'il faut chercher la cause des déplorables événements dont des Français ont été les victimes et qui menacent, en même temps, la sécurité générale.

C'est pourquoi mon Gouvernement est décidé à ne plus tolérer un pareil état de choses, et à exiger pour tous les griefs et les réclamations présentés au Maghzen des

satisfactions complètes, sans aucune restriction. Il a donc résolu de faire occuper par ses troupes la ville d'Oudjda. Cette occupation durera jusqu'au moment où toutes réparations auront été effectivement accomplies pour les faits indiqués plus haut et où la police aura été organisée partout conformément aux Traités et Arrangements.

Je prie votre Excellence de faire part de ce qui précède à Sa Majesté Chérifienne et de solliciter, dans le plus bref délai de sa sagesse éclairée des ordres conformes aux demandes de mon Gouvernement.

[10885] No. 15.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 6.)

(No. 76.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 28, 1907.

THE French Minister to-day informed me that he had addressed a note to Ben Sliman on the subject of the murder of Dr. Mauchamp, and had communicated the substance of the same to Hadj Mohamed Torres without leaving him a copy. This note points out that the Governor of Marakesh had had warning that the crowd was excited, and had taken no steps to avoid a disaster to the foreigners. He therefore demands that he should be immediately arrested, conveyed to Tangier, and imprisoned until a full inquiry has been made into his culpability. The French Consul at Mogador is to proceed to Marakesh to make this inquiry, which is to be facilitated by the Makhzen. Those found guilty are to be punished; the French Government to be the judge of the penalties inflicted. An indemnity is to be given to the family, and a sum to be paid to the French Government; this latter sum will be devoted to the establishment of a hospital at Marakesh in memory of the victim. The French Government will name the sums demanded. Reference is then made to the late attack at Fez on the Frenchman, Girancourt, and to the immunity from punishment granted to the murderers of Charbonnier last year, and to the attack on M. Lassallas at Marakesh, as evidence of the condition of anarchy reigning in the country, and the French Minister states that it is impossible to tolerate any longer the delays of the Moorish Government in putting into force the reforms agreed to by His Majesty the Sultan in the Act of Algeciras—notably, the police—and insists on the necessary orders being given at once. The Minister for Foreign Affairs is reminded that the French Consul at Fez has repeatedly called attention to the necessity of establishing a police force on the Algerian frontier in conformity with the Agreements made in 1901 and 1902, and the French Minister states that, having received no satisfactory replies to his notes on this subject, his Government has decided to establish itself this police force, in order to protect the Algerians on the frontier and re-establish commercial relations between the neighbouring people. In another part of the French possessions, Mauritania and Adrar, the action of the Makhzen has aroused hostilities of which French soldiers have been the victims. The Shereef Moulai Idris, the agent of the Makhzen, must be officially disavowed by Shereefian letters, in order that he may no longer incite the tribes against the French. Contraband openly carried on by the dispatch by the Makhzen of arms for Ma-el-Aimin must cease, as these arms are used against the French.

The French Minister concludes bp stating that all French claims have recently been left unsatisfied and unanswered. The French Consul will present to the Makhzen a complete list of these. The ill-will thus shown by the Makhzen towards the French has encouraged the authorities in a dangerous attitude, which has shown itself by the action of the people. For these reasons the French Government has decided no longer to tolerate this state of affairs, and to demand complete satisfaction without any restriction. The French Government has consequently decided to occupy Oudja—the occupation only to cease when all the above-mentioned satisfactions have been given and the police have everywhere been organized in conformity with the Treaties and Arrangements dealing with this matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[10708] No. 16.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 4.)

(No. 79. Confidential.)

Sir, *Tangier, March* 29, 1907.

THE French Minister to-day handed me the inclosed paper, containing the conditions agreed upon between the German Minister and Mr. Popp for the proposed formation of an international Company for the working of wireless telegraphy in this country, and begged that I would communicate it to you, at the same time expressing the hope that an English Company of standing would agree to join. He added that the Spanish Minister had approved of the idea, but had referred to his Government for instructions.

I told M. Regnault that I would willingly lay the matter in this form before you, but I did not know what view you would take of it.

He appeared to attach great importance to Mr. Popp's combination being successful in obtaining the adjudication, and said he hoped that the English branch of Siemens and Hals would not offer to join it, as the German influence in the management would then be too great.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 16.

Conditions agreed upon between the German Minister and Mr. Popp.

FORMATION d'une Société Anonyme Internationale, régie par la loi Française, ayant pour but l'installation et l'exploitation de la télégraphie sans fil au Maroc, dont le capital sera divisé en quatre parts égales, à souscrire par la France, l'Allemagne, l'Angleterre, et l'Espagne, Société qui devra être constituée un mois après la signature du présent Acte.

Dans le cas où une ou plusieurs des parts indiquées ci-dessus ne serait pas souscrite ou ne le serait que partiellement, la portion non souscrite sera offerte et répartie également entre les souscripteurs.

2. La Société sera administrée par Mr. Henry Popp, qui sera nommé statuairement Administrateur-Directeur, ou par un agent Français désigné par lui d'accord avec le Conseil d'Administration, qui sera composé de deux membres par nation souscripteur.

En cas de décès, de démission de Mr. Henry Popp, ou pour toute autre cause de renonciation, la direction reviendrait à un Français proposé par les membres Français du Conseil.

Le Conseil d'Administration aura les pouvoirs les plus étendus pour l'administration et la gestion de la Société, et il nommera notamment le Sous-Directeur, qui appartiendra à une autre des nationalités sus-désignées.

Tous les employés seront nommés par le Conseil d'Administration et recrutés en nombre égal parmi les ressortissants des diverses Puissances qui ont pris part à la souscription du capital. Toutefois, exception est faite pour le personnel attaché aux postes qui pourront être installés sur les frontières, lequel sera Français dans la région frontière Algéro-Marocaine et Espagnol sur les frontières des possessions Espagnoles.

3. Il sera remboursé à Mr. Henry Popp la somme de 250,000 fr., représentant les sommes dépensées jusqu'à ce jour pour l'établissement des quatre postes de télégraphie sans fil (Mogador, Saffi, Casa Blanca, et Tanger), somme qui sera versée le jour de la constitution définitive de la Société, et à dater du jour du paiement ces postes deviendront la propriété de la Société.

Il sera, en outre, attribué à Mr. Henry Popp un apport à déterminer comme fondateur de l'entreprise.

4. Toutes les commandes de matériel à faire par la Société seront réparties entre les quatre nations représentées, en parts égales.

Toutefois, il ne sera pas fait de commande à l'industrie Française jusqu'à ce que le matériel fourni par chacune des trois autres nations ait atteint pour chacune d'elles la somme de 250,000 fr.

Cette clause ne sera applicable qu'en cas de prix, qualité, et délai de livraison égaux.

Dès que la somme de 250,000 fr. aura été atteinte par chaque nation représentée, les commandes à venir seront réparties également entre elles.

5. Il est entendu que Mr. Henry Popp suspendra la construction de ses quatre postes dès que l'accord entre les participants sera signé, et qu'on demandera l'autorisation du Gouvernement Chérifien pour la mise en adjudication du télégraphe.

6. Les garanties seront données par la Société qu'elle se soumettra à tous les Règlements Chérifiens à donner en matière de télégraphie qui seront conformes aux Règlements en vigueur en Europe pour maintenir l'égalité entre tous les nationaux.

7. Il sera bon d'indiquer et de prévoir le cas où la Société ne serait pas adjudicataire, afin qu'il soit indiqué dans le cahier des charges que l'adjudicataire sera tenu de racheter les postes établis à ce jour par la Société.

[10709]

No. 17.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 4.)

(No. 80.)

Sir,

Tangier, March 29, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 76 of the 28th instant, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a despatch I have received from Mr. Madden at Dar-al-Baida, reporting that he had received news from Marakesh, dated the 22nd instant, to the effect that all was quiet there, and that there was no appearance of unrest.

On the other hand, the French Minister has just given me a copy of a letter, which I inclose herewith, from M. Gentil, a French resident of Marakesh, giving a very different impression.

I am at a loss to explain this discrepancy.

M. Regnault tells me that the French war-ship "Lalande" is leaving at once for Mazagan to bring up the body of M. Mauchamp, and it would also convey any foreigners who may have deemed it prudent to leave Marakesh.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 17.

Consul Madden to Mr. G. Lowther.

Sir,

Dar-al-Baida, March 25, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that I have this day received information from the Consular Agent at Morocco City, dated the 22nd instant, to the effect that all was quiet there then, and that people were moving about freely, and that there was not any appearance of unrest.

Mr. Vice-Consul Spinney also informs me that yesterday afternoon the French Colony at Mazagan had proceeded to meet the party that was bringing the body of the late Dr. Mauchamp from Morocco City, and that the Governor and the Umana had also gone out on the same errand.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. M. MADDEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 17.

M. Gentil to the French Minister at Tangier.

Marrakesh, le 22 *Mars*, 1907, 9 *heures matin.*

LA situation s'aggrave. L'Agent Consulaire Allemand a interdit hier à ses compatriotes de sortir de chez eux.

Le Vice-Consul d'Angleterre nous a proposé d'écrire une lettre signée de tous les Européens au Makhzen afin de nous faire protéger, des faits graves pouvant venir s'ajouter à celui de la mort du malheureux docteur. Je viens d'écrire aux Agents Consulaires d'Allemagne et d'Angleterre pour leur demander d'urgence une réunion de tous les Européens.

[10759]

No. 18.

M. de Cartier to Foreign Office.—(*Received April* 4.)

Légation de Belgique, 15, *West Halkin Street,*

M. le Sous-Secrétaire d'Etat, *Belgrave Square, Londres, le* 3 *Avril*, 1907.

DEFERANT au désir que vous avez bien voulu m'exprimer à la fin de notre entretien d'hier, relatif au choix d'un ingénieur au Maroc, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire parvenir ci-joint un aide-mémoire confidentiel résumant les vues que j'avais été chargé de vous exposer à ce sujet et exposant la situation actuelle de cette question en tant qu'elle concerne mon Gouvernement.

Je serais très reconnaissant si vous aviez l'extrême obligeance de vouloir bien signaler cette affaire à la bienveillante attention de son Excellence Sir Edward Grey, et je saisis, &c.

(Signé) E. DE CARTIER.

Inclosure in No. 18.

Aide-mémoire.

LE Gouvernement du Roi vient de m'apprendre que Sa Majesté Chérifienne a décidé d'appeler un Belge aux fonctions d'ingénieur déterminées par l'Article 66 de l'Acte Général d'Algésiras.

La notification en a été faite à notre Ministre à Tanger par une communication officielle du 24 Février dernier.

Le Comte de Buisseret s'était empressé d'informer verbalement chacun de ses collègues à Tanger de la notification que lui avait faite le Maghzen.

Peu de temps après, l'attention du Gouvernement du Roi fut attirée sur le fait que la désignation d'un ingénieur de nationalité Belge pourrait ne pas répondre au vœu de tous les Gouvernements intéressés; que la France, notamment, avait présenté un candidat dont les titres méritaient d'être sérieusement considérés.

M. le Baron de Favereau rappela aussitôt au Cabinet de Paris les conditions dans lesquelles s'était produite la candidature Belge, en insistant sur la parfaite correction de notre attitude basée sur les trois principes que nous avons pris comme règle de conduite dans les affaires Marocaines, savoir: abstention en matière politique, protection de nos intérêts économiques; impartialité bienveillante vis-à-vis de chacune des Puissances.

Néanmoins, M. de Favereau s'est montré disposé à accepter une procédure qui donnerait à la candidature Belge un caractère de conciliation en la faisant examiner par le Corps Diplomatique à Tanger après les candidatures nationales que présenteraient éventuellement les Grandes Puissances, et M. Leghait a été chargé d'indiquer à M. Pichon une combinaison proposée à cet effet, combinaison à laquelle le Gouvernement Français s'est rallié.

De cet échange de vues avec le Gouvernement Français se dégagent trois conclusions que je me permettrai de résumer ainsi:—

1. Nous ne pouvons retirer la candidature Belge régulièrement présentée par le Souverain du Maroc avec notre assentiment.

2. Le Corps Diplomatique à Tanger reste saisi de la question dans son entièreté.

3. Nous ne nous opposons pas cependant à ce que le Corps Diplomatique à Tanger examine d'abord les candidatures d'ingénieurs sujets de l'une ou l'autre des Grandes Puissances et présentées par elles.

Si l'accord n'était pas réalisé sur l'une de ces candidatures, le Corps Diplomatique aurait à se prononcer sur celle de notre compatriote choisi par le Maghzen.

En terminant, qu'il me soit permis de formuler l'espoir que Mr. Gerard Lowther soit mis au courant de ce qui précède avant la réunion dans laquelle le Corps Diplomatique aura à examiner les candidatures au poste d'ingénieur au Maroc, et j'ai l'honneur de recourir à cet effet à votre extrême obligeance en vous priant d'avoir la bonté d'appeler sur cette question la bienveillante attention de son Excellence M. le Secrétaire d'État aux Affaires Etrangères.

[10803]

No. 19.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 4.)

(No. 26.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Tangier, April 4, 1907.

WIRELESS telegraphy in Morocco.

With reference to my despatch No. 79 of the 29th ultimo. A Declaration, now in the hands of M. Popp, to which he has pressed me to add my name, has been signed by the German, French, and Spanish Ministers, stating that they see no objection to the proposed formation of a Company on the basis of the document which was inclosed in my above-named despatch.

Dr. Rosen informs me that the German Government are very desirous that this Agreement may be signed and published. M. Popp says the installation will be proceeded with or stopped in accordance with the decision arrived at by you. I replied that before signing I must wait till I received your instructions.

[10799]

No. 20.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 16.)
(Telegraphic.) R.

Foreign Office, April 4, 1907.

MURDER of French Doctor.

You should support demands put forward by French Government for reparation by informing Moorish Government that the action of the French Government is entirely approved by His Majesty's Government.

[10818]

No. 21.

Sir M. de Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 5.)

(No. 66. Confidential.)
Sir,

Madrid, March 31, 1907.

I HAD some conversation to-day with M. de Radowitz, German Ambassador, on the subject of the position in Morocco. His Excellency remarked that Germany had placed herself in line with the other Powers in approving and supporting the action which France had been driven to take to exact reparation for the outrage in Morocco city. He expressed a good deal of irritation at M. Tardieu's recent publications, and described the author as a clever but highly dangerous personality, inspired unceasingly by dreams of a war of revenge against Germany. His utterances concerning Morocco were twisted out of all proper relation with the true history of events. His Excellency's conversations with Comte Cassini were completely distorted. A conversation was attributed to M. de Radowitz with Sir Arthur Nicolson which never took place at all. A significance was assigned to the vote taken on the 3rd instant which nobody thought of attaching to it at the time; but all this now mattered very little, for both M. Jules Cambon and the French Government had entirely repudiated the article in the "Revue des Deux Mondes" and expressed to the German Government their sense of its inopportuneness.

M. de Radowitz went on to say that Germany was not going to allow the Morocco question to upset her equanimity, and whether France retained Ujda or retired from it was a matter of very little consequence.

The Spanish press discusses the subject in the spirit which it always displays in dealing with Morocco. On the one hand, the extreme Radical and Republican papers like the "Liberal," "Heraldo," and "País" declaim against any Spanish intervention at all in Moorish affairs. The moderate Liberal press, represented by the "Imparcial" and the Government organs such as the "Epoca," cautiously and rather reluctantly concede that France has only taken the action which circumstances have imposed upon her. The Independent Conservative "Correspondencia," which is widely read and influential, deals with the subject at much greater length. During the last week it has published in large type all the most disquieting rumours it could get hold of, together with a series of articles headed "The Beginning of the End," and tending to show that Morocco is breaking up, that the arrangements made at Algeciras have led

[10803]

No. 21*.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 17.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, April 5, 1907.*

WIRELESS telegraphy in Morocco.

Mr. Lowther's telegram No. 26 repeated to you.

I propose to instruct him, unless French Government object, to sign the declaration as his colleagues have done. Inform French Government.

to no appreciable result, that everything is again in the melting-pot, and that the international crisis is even more acute than it was in the period following the German Emperor's visit to Tangier in 1905. It seeks to show that the object of France is to make the Muluya the frontier between Algeria and Morocco. The occupation of Ujda is represented as having practically achieved this object already. If France is allowed to proceed on this course, the readers of the "Correspondencia" are warned that Spain will shortly find France installed as her neighbour on the south as well as on the north, a position which will be well-nigh intolerable. Meanwhile, her coasts will be at the mercy of England. Spain should learn before it is too late that common military action with France has always proved disastrous to the former Power. It is hinted that the Royal interview at Carthagena will be the occasion of the signature of some important Agreement, and that it behoves Spain to approach these questions with a clear understanding of their significance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MAURICE DE BUNSEN.

[11045] No. 22.

Note respecting Wireless Telegraphy in Morocco.—(*Communicated by M. Geoffray, April* 6, 1907.)

1. FORMATION, dans un délai d'un mois après la signature de l'Accord, d'une Société composée de quatre parts égales: Française, Anglaise, Allemande, Espagnole.

2. Un membre Français de la Compagnie Popp sera statuairement pendant quinze ans Administrateur-Directeur. Le Sous-Directeur sera nommé par le Conseil d'Administration et pris dans une autre nationalité que le Directeur. Tous les employés seront nommés par le Conseil d'Administration et recrutés en nombre égal parmi les ressortissants des Puissances qui ont pris part à la souscription du capital. Toutefois, exception est faite pour le personnel attaché aux postes qui pourront être installés sur les frontières, lequel sera Français dans la région frontière Algéro-Marocaine et Espagnol sur la frontière des possessions Espagnoles.

3. Rachat à la Compagnie Popp par la nouvelle Société, au prix de 250,000 fr., des quatre postes en cours d'installation à Tanger, Casablanca, Safi, Mogador. Cette somme sera versée aussitôt après la constitution de la Société.

En outre, il sera attribué à M. Popp en qualité de fondateur des actions libérées en nombre à déterminer.

4. La fourniture des appareils à installer dans les nouveaux postes sera partagée entre les pays souscripteurs, mais aucune commande nouvelle ne sera faite à l'industrie Française tant que celles effectuées par chaque autre pays n'auront pas atteint 250,000 fr.

5. M. Popp arrêtera la construction de ses quatre postes dès la signature de l'Accord, et la nouvelle Société se mettra en instance auprès du Gouvernement Marocain pour la mise en adjudication.

6. Garantie pour la Société de se soumettre aux Règlements Européens sur la matière.

7. Afin de n'être pas frustrée si l'adjudication n'est pas prononcée à son profit, la nouvelle Société demandera au Gouvernement Marocain l'insertion dans le cahier des charges d'une clause obligeant l'adjudicataire à racheter les quatre postes au prix de 250,000 fr.

[10155] No. 23.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 200.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 6, 1907.

THE French Minister called at this Office on the 2nd instant, and was informed by Sir C. Hardinge of the arrangements recently agreed upon by the French, German, and Spanish Ministers at Tangier for the foundation of an international Company for the installation of a service of wireless telegraphy in Morocco. Sir C. Hardinge inquired whether this arrangement was in accordance with the wishes of the French Government in order that I might know whether I could suggest to a British Company the desirability of their joining in this undertaking.

M. Geoffray said that he had fully reported to the French Government the substance of a conversation I had held with him a week ago on this subject (see my despatch No. 176 of the 26th ultimo), but that as yet he had received no reply. He promised to write again to Paris and say that I was anxious to learn the views of the French Government on the remarks which I had made to him, as well on the news of the formation of this international Company.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[10759]

No. 24.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 203. Confidential.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, April 8, 1907.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith copy of a semi-official communication from the Belgian Chargé d'Affaries at this Court, inclosing a confidential *aide-mémoire*,* relating to the proposed appointment of a Belgian as State Engineer in Morocco, and stating that inasmuch as the Belgian candidature was regularly put forward by the Sultan of Morocco it cannot now be withdrawn. The Belgian Government are, however, it appears, quite willing that candidates from among the other Powers should first be considered, and that only failing agreement as to one or other of these the Diplomatic Body should discuss the claims of the Belgian nominee.

I shall be glad if your Excellency will inquire what reply has been returned by the French Government to this communication. You should point out at the same time that His Majesty's Minister at Tangier has been instructed to support the candidature of M. Porché, and say that it seems to me to be premature to draw up other instructions founded upon the possibility of the defeat of the French candidature, unless the French Government have already arrived at an understanding with the Belgian Government on this question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY

[10708]

No. 25.

Foreign Office to Post Office.†

(Confidential.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, April 8, 1907.

WITH reference to my letter of the 28th ultimo, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you, to be laid before the Postmaster-General, the accompanying copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Minister at Tangier with regard to the proposed formation of an international Company for the working of wireless telegraphy in Morocco.‡

Before making any observations on the scheme set out in Mr. Lowther's despatch, Sir E. Grey will await the expression of the views of the French Government on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

[11701]

No. 26.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 13.)

(No. 83.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 2, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Fez, giving particulars of an attack on M. de Gironcourt, a French citizen visiting Fez, on the 7th ultimo.

It will be observed that in this instance the outrage was provoked by an attempt

* See No. 19. † Also to Admiralty and Board of Trade. ‡ No. 16.

[11045]

No. 23*.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 17.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, April 8, 1907.

WIRELESS telegraphy in Morocco.

You are authorized to sign Declaration referred to in your telegram No. 26 of the 4th instant.

[10380]

No. 24*.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 58.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 8, 1907.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 67 of the 22nd ultimo reporting the detention by the Moorish Customs officials of certain material destined for the installation and equipment of wireless telegraphy stations.

These proceedings on the part of the Moorish authorities appear to me to require some further explanation, and I should be glad to know whether there is any legal justification for such action on their part.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

on the part of M. de Gironcourt to take photographs while walking unattended in the city.

This despatch should have reached me some time ago but has been delayed, but I think it well that the incidents should be on record.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 26.

Consul Macleod to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 26.)

Sir, *Fez, March* 28, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to give the following particulars of an attack on M. de Gironcourt, a French citizen visiting Fez, on the 7th instant :—

On the afternoon of that day M. de Gironcourt, unattended, walked through various parts of the city, occasionally taking photographs.

He approached the tomb of Sidi Ali Boghallim, which is inside the walls and near the eastern gate of the city. The day being a Friday, a number of women were assembled in the neighbouring cemetery, and also some boys, and M. de Gironcourt took a snapshot of them. Presently the boys began to throw stones. M. de Gironcourt ran off. The boys followed, more stones were thrown, and a crowd collected round M. de Gironcourt.

Several of the stones struck him, particularly one on the head, which caused a concussion of the brain so severe that for several days M. de Gironcourt's life was in considerable danger. The crowd then began to pull him about and to strike him. Fortunately two soldiers ("Emhazinia") who chanced to be passing intervened, and succeeded in getting M. de Gironcourt out of the crowd. They took him to the Acting Governor, who, hearing who he was, took him carefully on an easy-pacing mule to the French Consulate and expressed many regrets for the occurrence. There he still remains under medical treatment. He is now able to move about a little, but still suffers from giddiness, and has not regained perfect nervous control of one of his hands and of one of his legs.

The Moorish authorities presently arrested two head-porters who were in that neighbourhood, and the Mukuddum of that quarter, not as being guilty themselves, but as responsible for the good order of that vicinity.

So far, in spite of the continual remonstrances of the French Consul, none of M. de Gironcourt's assailants have been arrested, although several of them are alleged to be quite well known to the authorities.

When seeing the Vizier for Foreign Affairs to-night, I inquired how this matter was progressing, and he answered that the Moorish Government had been quite unable to identify the culprits, as the acts had been committed by a general crowd of street loafers, mostly boys.

The popular belief, however inexact, is that M. de Gironcourt was trying to enter the sanctuary of Sidi Ali Boghallim, and so, I imagine, the situation really is that the Moorish Government shrink from the unpopularity of making a severe example of the real culprits. Amongst certain foreigners here M. de Gironcourt is blamed and the Makhzen is held excused in the matter, because M. de Gironcourt was going about without a native attendant or soldier. This, especially for a stranger, is not a wise thing to do, as a rule. But it has never been admitted to be obligatory on Europeans here to be attended invariably by a native, and were the Moorish authorities always to do their duty loyally there would soon, with so timid a populace as that of Fez, be no occasion at all for such a practice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

[11289] No. 27.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 9.)

(No. 85.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 3, 1907.

REPORTS from Marrakesh continue to be somewhat contradictory. It is believed by some that the pessimistic reports are put into circulation by the French residents at Marrakesh with a desire for political reasons to make the situation appear more grave. On the other hand, from reports received from the British Consular Agent, Mr. Lennox, it would appear that, though the first disturbance when Dr. Mauchamp was assassinated and Mr. Lennox' house attacked, was succeeded by a period of comparative quiet, there was a recrudescence of hostile feeling towards the Christians, which became intense on the death of two or three of the natives who were shot, presumably by the Government soldiers when dispersing the crowd or by the persons defending Mr. Lennox' house. The position of Europeans was apparently somewhat critical for a day or two, and they were recommended to remain in their houses, and Mr. Lennox, writing on the 27th, suggested that troops should be sent to assist the Government in maintaining order. The following day, however, he reported that the situation was much more favourable, and that the Government authorities had proposed to raise a force of 200 men to patrol the town.

The Government had, it appears, before made a suggestion to the Viceroy to raise a regiment, but the latter official, who is on bad terms with the Governor, had refused.

Mr. Lennox, whilst not agreeing to a proposition put forward by the French residents that all Europeans should leave for the coast, had associated himself with them, and all the other foreigners in a joint note to the Governor urging the adoption of strong measures for insuring their safety.

In commenting upon recent events and the situation generally, Mr. Lennox states that the riot had the sympathy of the Governor and of practically all the population, hundreds of whom he states were interested spectators of the murder, the men openly expressing their approval, and the women, who were watching from the housetops, uttered the shrill cry by which they express their joy at public festivals, marriages, &c. In view of the intense hatred, especially of the French, which has been evinced, Mr. Lennox considers it fortunate that there should have been only one victim.

The Governor of Marrakesh is old, weak, and incapable of maintaining order, even had he the desire to do so, and Mr. Lennox is of opinion that he should be replaced by a more competent man. The removal and punishment of this Governor is, however one of the demands of the French Legation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[11366] No. 28.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 9.)

(No. 27.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, April* 9, 1907.

NEWS of a very disquieting nature has reached M. Regnault as to the situation at Daralbaida. According to his reports, it appears that the tribes are threatening the town, and the cruiser "Lalande" will in consequence be dispatched there to-morrow.

A less serious view is taken by the British Consul, who, while insisting that the Governor is incompetent, informs me that a communication has reached him through the Governor from the official commanding the troops in the district, stating that no apprehension need be caused by the approaching visit of the tribes to the town.

[11374] No. 29.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 10.)

(No. 87.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 4, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 79 of the 29th ultimo, I have the honour to report that M. Popp or his representative has been several times to see me, and explained that, having now obtained the adherence of the French, German, and Spanish Ministers to the proposed formation of an International Telegraph Company for the working of the wireless telegraphy in this country, it is most important that my adherence should also be given.

I inclose the forms of adherence of my three colleagues.

I have informed M. Popp that I could not add my signature without your authorization.

He explained that it was important that this adherence should be given at once, for he was about to send his representative to the coast towns, and the work on the stations would be continued if we did not agree, but would be stopped pending the result of the adjudication if we agreed to the terms of the proposed combination.

Dr. Rosen spoke to me again on the subject to-day, and I said that I thought the last paragraph of the draft Agreement was open to considerable objection, as Companies wishing to tender for this work would quite properly object to be hampered by a clause compelling them to purchase the stations—by many considered to have been improperly established by M. Popp. Dr. Rosen replied that he did not think the wording of the paragraph would actually bind the signatories to insist on a clause in the "Cahier des Charges" to that effect. His Government was anxious that the document in question should be signed by me in order that it might be made public. The question had been mentioned in the public press, and a wrong impression would very likely be created if the real facts were not known.

M. Regnault also spoke to me on the subject, and seemed most anxious to obtain my signature.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 29.

Forms of Adherence of the French, German, and Spanish Ministers at Tangier.

De la main de M. Regnault :

JE ne vois, en ce qui me concerne, aucune objection au projet de Société présenté ci-dessus par M. Henri Popp.

(Signé) REGNAULT.

De la main de M. Rosen :

Je trouve également le projet de M. Henri Popp tout à fait acceptable, en ce qui me concerne, et n'ai aucune objection à faire.

(Signé) ROSEN.

De la main de M. Llaberia :

Pour ma part, je trouve aussi acceptable le projet de M. Henri Popp.

(Signé) LLABERIA.

[11547] No. 30.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 11.)

(No. 12.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Paris, April* 11, 1907.

MOROCCO. Appointment of Belgian Engineer, referred to in your despatch No. 203 of the 8th instant.

I am informed by M. Pichon that he confined himself to taking note of the declaration of the Belgian Government, as it did not formally withdraw the candidature put forward in opposition to that of the French Government.

Renewed instructions have been sent to the French Representative at Tangier to the effect that the French Government adhere to their original proposals, viz., that a Frenchman be appointed as Chief Engineer and a Spaniard as Assistant.

(Confidential.)

M. Regnault has further been instructed that he may, should he eventually find that such a course is necessary in order to secure a majority for the French and Spanish candidates, accept the creation of a second post of Assistant and the appointment thereto of a Belgian Engineer.

[11547] No. 31.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 19.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Foreign Office, April* 11, 1907.

PARIS telegram No. 12, last paragraph [State Engineer in Morocco].

You should support your French colleague if necessary.

[11045] No. 32.

*Foreign Office to Board of Trade.**

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 11, 1907.

AS you will have observed from my letter of the 8th instant, a suggestion has been made that an international Company should be formed for dealing with the question of the installation of a service of wireless telegraphy in Morocco. It has further been proposed that the capital of this Company should be subscribed in equal portions by France, Germany, Great Britain, and Spain.

2. After careful consideration, His Majesty's Government see no reason to reject such a scheme in principle. They have accordingly authorized His Majesty's Minister at Tangier to join with his French, German, and Spanish colleagues in signing a Declaration to the effect that they have nothing to object to in the formation of the proposed international Company.

3. I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you herewith a copy of the bases of the Agreement into which it is proposed that the four subscribing parties should enter, as communicated by the French Minister at this Court,† together with the draft of a letter which it is proposed to address to the Eastern Telegraph Company inviting them to take up the British share of this undertaking, and to request that you will lay these papers before the Board of Trade, and ask that Sir E. Grey may be furnished with any observations which they may desire to offer on the whole subject, and with their suggestions as to what alternative course had best be taken into consideration in the event of the Eastern Telegraph Company declining to take up the matter.

4. The claims of Lloyd's with regard to the installation of a wireless apparatus on their signalling station at Cape Spartel are set out in their letter of the 18th ultimo, copy of which was sent to your Department in my letter of the 28th idem, and Sir E. Grey would be glad to be favoured with your opinion as to whether the position of Lloyd's in this matter will be adequately safeguarded by the last two paragraphs of the draft letter to the Eastern Telegraph Company, and what further steps, if any,

* Also to Post Office, *mutatis mutandis*.

should be taken at this stage effectively to secure the rights of Lloyd's to the control of a wireless station at Cape Spartel.

5. A similar letter has been sent to the General Post Office, and a copy of this correspondence has been sent to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

Inclosure in No. 32.

Draft of Letter from Foreign Office to Eastern Telegraph Company.

[See No. 90.]

[11764] No. 33.

Consul MacLeod to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 13.)

(No. 1.)
Sir, *Fez, April* 2, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that Sid Abdelkrim Ben Sliman, Vizier for Foreign Affairs, this morning summoned the Consular Representatives here to meet him.

The French Consul, M. Caillard, the Acting German Consul, Dr. Vassel, and I were present. By some mistake of the Vizier, the Spanish Consul, M. Cortes, was not notified in time to attend, but the Vizier assured us that he had been sent for and the same communications would be made to him as to us.

The Vizier said the Sultan had directed him to tell the Consular Body—

1. That His Majesty entirely recognized the wrongs for which the French Government was asking reparation, and was more than any one anxious to give every satisfaction for what had occurred. With this view, His Majesty, when reports of the French Government's intention to occupy Oujdah became current, had instructed his Representative at Tangier to telegraph to the Governor of Oujdah and the Commanding Officer of the troops there, to make no opposition to such occupation.

On the contrary, the Moorish authorities were to make the French troops welcome, and to do everything possible to preserve friendly feeling and good order in that region.

2. Similarly, His Majesty, with the view of forestalling commotions throughout the country had sent Shereefian letters to be read in the principal towns explaining that the occupation of Oujdah was not to be considered a hostile act, but simply a step taken by the French Government towards the settlement of various matters pending between the two Governments, especially certain deplorable outrages on French citizens.

So His Majesty exhorted his subjects to assist him in his efforts to that end by being at pains to preserve good order, and to be good-natured and friendly towards foreigners. Foreigners, His Majesty was pointing out, were to be treated as guests whose safety and welfare his subjects, as good Moslems, were bound to respect.

A letter in the foregoing sense would be read in the Karuin Mosque here to-day or to-morrow.

3. The tribes, His Majesty had said, were apt to imitate Fez at such times, so the Sultan asked the Consuls to exhort their respective fellow-countrymen to observe every precaution and forbearance during the next few days, and even to refrain as far as possible from showing themselves in public. In a few days any dangerous public feeling would probably pass away if nothing happened to augment it.

4. His Majesty next had expressed the hope that the Consuls here would use their best offices with their respective Ministers towards procuring a speedy and mutually satisfactory settlement of the present difficulties.

5. The Vizier then produced a special number of the foreign "Dépêche Marocaine," giving in Arabic as well as in French an account of the occupation of Oujdah, in terms which the Vizier feared would be very apt to inflame Moorish feeling hereabouts, and especially would tend to enrage natives against the Government. So he asked that the Consuls do their best to stop the distribution of such papers here for the present amongst natives.

Each of us answered that, in anticipation of His Majesty's wishes, we had been enjoining our respective fellow-countrymen to observe great prudence and forbearance at this time, and we would continue to do so.

The French Consul who alone was concerned about these news-sheets, as they are French and come through the French post, said he would at once, as far as he could, stop their being circulated, at least amongst natives.

As regards using our good offices with our respective Ministers towards promoting a settlement of these questions, none of us made any observation, beyond expressing wishes that all matters would soon be happily settled, and assuring the Vizier that we could be relied on to do everything in our power to ensure our fellow-countrymen's acting prudently.

Both from the Vizier's very evident deep emotion and from what I learn on every side, it seems clear that the Moorish Government are seriously alarmed, at last, at the steps which the French Government have taken.

Though they do not avow it, yet at any rate, the fact that Germany has not prevented the occupation of Oujdah cannot fail to make a considerable impression on the group of functionaries at Court who, these three years, have been incorrigible in believing that Germany would support them in everything and at all times against France.

So far, I am glad to report there has been no marked instance of public irritation here, and I am hopeful that in a very few days, if nothing untoward occurs meanwhile, the likelihood of anything unfortunate happening will become less and less.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

[11704] No. 34.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 13.)

(No. 88.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 4, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Makhzen have invited the Austrian and Netherland Ministers to select experts from their countries for the purpose of fixing the amount of the compensation to be paid to those foreigners who now carry on the tobacco trade here when the monopoly is introduced.

Article 73 of the Act of Algeciras, which deals with this question, states that these experts are to be nominated jointly by the Makhzen and the Diplomatic Body, and the French Minister, who has spoken to me on the subject, is of opinion that, in this matter, the Makhzen have acted in a manner almost as irregular as in their request to the Belgian Minister to select a Belgian engineer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[11705] No. 35.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 13.)

(No. 89.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 4, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 70 of the 23rd instant, I have the honour to report that the body of Doctor Mauchamp was conveyed, under an escort of Moorish cavalry, from Marakesh to Mazagan and embarked on the French cruiser "Lalande." The Moorish authorities at that port appear to have rendered every possible respect to the deceased, having acted as chief mourners at the ceremony, all the troops being in attendance.

The body arrived at Tangier on the 2nd instant, and was landed on the wharf, where the staff of the French Legation, in full uniform, the Representatives of the foreign Ministers, and many members of the French Colony were assembled. Hadj Hamed Torres, the son of the Sultan's Commissioner, and several other prominent Moors were also present at their own request, and, after a salute of seventeen guns had been fired by the "Jeanne d'Arc" lying in the bay, the fort also spontaneously fired a similar salute.

Speeches were pronounced by the French Minister and by representatives of the

French Colony and of the Tangier Medical Corps extolling the virtues of the deceased, and the French Minister stated that it was the intention of his Government to assure the safety not only of French citizens but of all foreign subjects.

After a ceremony lasting over one and a half hours the body was conveyed on board a French steam-ship by the boats of the "Jeanne d'Arc" and "Lalande," volleys being fired as the launches started by a party of sailors in a man-of-war's boat.

It is to be remarked that, as at Mazagan so at Tangier, the Moorish authorities did their utmost to mark their sense of the gravity of the situation, the approaches to the wharf being lined by a considerable body of infantry, and, as I have already stated, other spontaneous honours were rendered to the memory of the deceased. I am assured that the ceremony was of a highly impressive character, and M. Regnault told me that the Moorish authorities and people had behaved extremely well as regards respect and honour shown to the deceased.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[11706] No. 36.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 13.)

(No. 90.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 5, 1907.

THE peaceful occupation of Oujdah by the French produced little or no effect here, as far as it is possible to judge of the feelings of the people, but Tangier and Oujdah have no connection with each other.

In Fez the report of the events at Marakesh and the occupation of Oujdah are now well known, but do not seem to have excited any particular feeling.

It is obvious that the fact that a Moorish town is now in the hands of the French cannot be a pleasing fact to Moors at large, but the ill-feeling is directed rather against the Makhzen, and especially against the Tazzi group, for their mismanagement of the affairs of the Government in general than against foreigners. Marakesh seems latterly to have been specially badly governed. There were, last year, rumours that the Governor, Mulai Haffid, was about to proclaim himself Sultan of the South, and orders were then issued by the Sultan that all the troops were to be withdrawn and no rifles were to be given out, and, consequently, when this trouble broke out, Mulai Haffid was powerless to check it.

Ben Sliman, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, is, it appears, very reticent on the subject of the events in question, and some of the other Viziers affect to treat the matter merely as a case or claim, to be settled in the usual course of things.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[11707] No. 37.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 13.)

(No. 91.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 5, 1907.

IN pursuance of the instructions contained in your telegram No. 16 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to report that I, this afternoon, called upon Hadj Mohammed Torres, the Sultan's Commissioner, and informed him that the demands put forward by the French Government in connection with the murder of Dr. Mauchamp had been communicated to His Majesty's Government, who entirely approve those demands, and I ventured to express the hope that the Moorish Government would raise no difficulties in accepting them and concede them with a good grace. To this Sid Torres replied that the Moorish Government could not help itself: the regrettable incident having occurred they must comply with any demands which might be made. He added that in his opinion the murdered man had brought his fate upon himself by the inconsiderate way in which he aroused the fury of the mob; but I pointed out to his Excellency that the British Consular Agent had almost met the same fate as Dr. Mauchamp, although he had done nothing to rouse the anger of the townspeople.

To this his Excellency replied that it was a matter for congratulation that the

matter was not much more serious, as for fully seven years past the Makhzen has been most feeble, and would have been quite unable to maintain order had the necessity ever arisen for a show of authority, and that it was only due to the common sense of the people that other incidents had not arisen.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[11708] No. 38.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 13.)

(No. 92.)
Sir, *Tangier, April 6, 1907.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 44 of the 23rd February, I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of a letter from Sid-ben-Sliman to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body in reply to that addressed to him calling attention to the unsatisfactory state of affairs at Mogador and the proceedings of Kaïd Anflus.

Sid-ben-Sliman states that the Sultan has sent orders to the Governor of Mogador and to Kaïd Anflus to remove all cause of complaint.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 38.

Sid-ben-Sliman to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body.

(Traduction.) *Fez, le 6 Safar*, 1325 (21 *Mars*, 1907).

J'AI reçu la lettre que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser au nom des Représentants des Puissances au sujet de la situation dans laquelle se trouve actuellement la ville de Mogador et des dommages occasionnés aux étrangers qui y résident du fait de la conduite de son Gouverneur et des agissements du Caïd Anflous et ses gens.

J'ai pris connaissance de tout ce que vous avez exposé à ce sujet et de l'espoir que vous exprimez de voir disparaître le préjudice occasionné par le dit Gouverneur et cesser les agissements d'Anflous.

J'ai pris bonne note de votre lettre et l'ai portée à la connaissance de Sa Majesté.

Déjà avant la réception de votre lettre et dès qu'il fut informé d'une partie des faits que vous signalez, mon maître avait envoyé des ordres au Gouverneur de Mogador lui enjoignant de remplir ses fonctions d'une façon sérieuse et efficace, de faire son devoir en ce qui concerne l'administration de la ville, et d'éliminer ce qui est cause de mal pour ses habitants.

De même, Sa Majesté a ordonné au Caïd Anflous de cesser ses agissements, de se tenir tranquille, et d'éviter le retour de tout sujet de plainte contre lui. Un Agent de la Cour Chérifienne est déjà parti pour veiller à l'exécution de ces ordres.

De nouveaux ordres Chérifiens viennent d'être expédiés à ces deux fonctionnaires leur confirmant les instructions précitées.

(Signé) ABDELKERIM-BEN-SLIMAN.

[11728] No. 39.

Sir E. Egerton to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 13.)

(No. 63. Confidential.)
Sir, *Rome, April 9, 1907.*

THE French Ambassador tells me that he learns from Tangier that so far from the Belgian Representative there having abandoned the idea of the Belgian candidature for the place of engineer, M. de Buisseret would propose it at the first diplomatic meeting on the subject, unless all the Great Powers unanimously agreed to the nomination of the French engineer, and further that the Italian Representative has up to the present received no instructions from his Government as to his vote.

M. Barrère was somewhat indignant at this news as he had been tranquillized by Signor Tittoni's assurance, before his departure for Greece, that he believed the

Belgian candidature would be abandoned, and that he had telegraphed to Signor Pansa at Berlin to recommend the German Minister for Foreign Affairs to press the Belgians not to create the necessity for a vote, as it would be better that the appointment of the French engineer should be made unanimously than by a majority. Signor Tittoni had also appeared to assent to his insistence on the French right to Italian support in Morocco.

He proposed, therefore, to beg Signor Malvano, the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, to telegraph to Signor Tittoni at Athens to inform his Excellency of the surprise with which he received the above-mentioned news from Tangier, which he considered serious, not as affecting the point at issue, for a majority composed of six votes was assured, but as affecting the Mediterranean understanding between Italy and France.

M. Barrère said he would certainly speak on the subject to Signor Giolitti on his return to Rome, as he felt sure it was only Signor Tittoni's personal servility to Prince Bülow which has brought about this difficulty.

I told him that I proposed to see Signor Giolitti on Thursday on other business, and would mention the subject to his Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. H. EGERTON.

[12225] No. 40.

Post Office to Foreign Office.—(Received April 16.)

Sir, *General Post Office, April 15, 1907.*

I AM directed by the Postmaster-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter (with inclosures) of the 11th instant, and previous communications on the subject of the establishment of wireless telegraphy in Morocco.

Mr. Sydney Buxton has carefully considered the proposed scheme for the formation of an international Company for this purpose, the capital to be subscribed in equal portions by France, Germany, Great Britain, and Spain; and he concurs in Sir Edward Grey's view that His Majesty's Government need not object to the principle of the scheme. He has also examined the bases of the Agreement into which it is proposed that the four subscribing parties should enter, and he thinks that, subject to the safeguarding of the position of Lloyd's, they may be regarded as satisfactory.

Mr. Buxton also concurs in the terms of the draft letter which Sir Edward Grey proposes to send to the Eastern Telegraph Company, inviting them to take up the British share in the International Company. He thinks that for a number of reasons the Eastern Company are so obviously the best for the purpose that pressure should, if necessary, be put upon them with a view to secure their participation; and he is scarcely prepared at present to suggest any alternative course in the event of their refusal. In any case it appears to him that there would be some objections to inviting any Company interested in one particular system of wireless telegraphy to take part in the scheme.

As regards Lloyd's, Mr. Buxton thinks it doubtful whether, in the new circumstances, Lloyd's will any longer wish to erect a station of their own at Cape Spartel. The International Company will probably wish that their stations on the coast should be open for communication with ships as well as *inter se*, a course to which His Majesty's Government could hardly object; and in that case there might not be enough traffic to justify Lloyd's in going to the expense of establishing a station at Cape Spartel (even if such a station could be worked without disturbing and being disturbed by a station at Tangier), provided they were assured of receiving any maritime information which might reach the International Company's stations. The International Company would no doubt readily agree to accept an obligation to forward such information to Lloyd's; indeed, that such information should be given is already indicated in general terms by Article XXXIX of the Regulations of the Berlin Convention, to which Mr. Buxton assumes that Morocco would adhere if the International Company's stations were open for communication with ships.

Another aspect of the matter is that if a station were established by Lloyd's at Cape Spartel as well as by the International Company at Tangier, the risk of interference with the Admiralty station at Gibraltar would practically be doubled,

although of course, if Morocco adheres to the Berlin Convention, every station on Moorish territory will be bound to avoid interference as far as possible.

In any case however, even if the erection by Lloyd's of a station at Cape Spartel should be thought necessary, the stipulations in their favour which Sir Edward Grey proposes to make will apparently suffice.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. BABINGTON SMITH.

[12325] No. 41.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 93.)
Sir, *Tangier, April 10, 1907.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 85 of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida communicating the latest reports received from the Consular Agent at Marakesh, who does not appear to apprehend danger to Europeans from the death of the natives wounded during the riot.

The French residents at Marakesh are sending their families to the coast for safety, though the men are remaining at Marakesh.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 41.

Consul Madden to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 44.)
Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, April 6, 1907.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 36 of the 30th ultimo, regarding a report from Morocco city as to the deaths of two or three Moslems in the defence of the Christians during the recent trouble at that place, I have the honour to state I am informed by the Consular Agent there that two of the deaths referred to took place during the scuffle at the house of the late French doctor. The third was that of a boy who was wounded during the affair before the house of Sir Harry Maclean, and who had since died. The Consular Agent states that the boy is popularly supposed to have been shot by the firing from the house, either by the soldiers or by one of his own men.

It appears that the mother of the lad went to the Governor's place, but was sent away by the soldiers. She next went to the house of Sir Harry Maclean and began crying out. The Governor sent for her, so Mr. Lennox informs me, and would have put her into confinement, but several respectable people having become surety for her silence this was not done, and since then she has been silent.

The Consular Agent adds that, so far as he can learn, there is no reason to apprehend danger to Europeans from this cause.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. MADDEN.

[12396] No. 42.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 29.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, April 17, 1907.*

MY despatch No. 32 of the 6th February last.

A contract for constructing a road along the sea and drainage works to cost 36,000*l.* has been signed with the Makhzen by a German Company.

The Act of Algeciras and the opinion of the Diplomatic Body, as expressed in my above-named despatch, have thus been ignored.

[12397] No. 43.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 17.)

(No. 30.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, April 17, 1907.*

TOBACCO monopoly.

Conditions of tender for tobacco monopoly have been received from Moorish Government, and I am forwarding them by post. The 1st June has been fixed as date for adjudication.

The Diplomatic Body seems disposed to endeavour to secure the modification of some of the conditions which are objectionable.

[11704] No. 44.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 20.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, April 18, 1907.*

YOUR despatch No. 88: Tobacco monopoly.

Article 73 of the Algeciras Act provides that, before calling for the assistance of experts, the Maghzen must first endeavour to come to an amicable arrangement with the parties interested. Point this out to Moorish Government, protesting strongly at the same time against their conduct in this matter.

You should endeavour to enlist support from your French, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Portuguese, and United States' colleagues in resisting the encroachments of the Maghzen, and urge the claim that some at least of the experts should be British, since almost all the existing tobacco trade is in British hands.

Please explain views of His Majesty's Government to your Austrian and Netherland colleagues, asking them to suggest to their respective Governments that the request addressed to them by the Maghzen should not be complied with before the matter has been fully discussed by the Diplomatic Body at Tangier.

[12396] No. 45.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G Lowther.

(No. 21.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Foreign Office, April 18, 1907.*

YOUR telegram No. 29 [Harbour works at Tangier].

His Majesty's Government share the views expressed by the majority of the Diplomatic Body at Tangier, as reported in your despatch No. 32 [of 6th February]. You should explain this to German Minister, and point out that, if your information is correct, and if the contracts have been signed and are to be officially supported by him, His Majesty's Government will, of course, be obliged to uphold the provisions of the Algeciras Act with the Makhzen, and to hold the Sultan responsible for any such contravention of it.

You can explain to Dr. Rosen that your object is not to make difficulties in advance, but, if possible, to avoid the difficulties which must certainly arise if the German Government become committed to something which is clearly a contravention of the Act, which we are bound to uphold.

We have not yet heard anything from the French Government, but you can inform your French colleague of your instructions, and say to him that if it becomes necessary we shall be prepared to support joint action in accordance with the view previously expressed by him and the majority of your colleagues.

[12491] No. 46.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 19.)

(No. 197. Confidential.)

Sir, *Paris, April* 17, 1907.

TO-DAY was the day for M. Pichon to receive the foreign Representatives, and his Excellency told me that some of the Ambassadors had sought information from him as to the truth of the reports in the press of a *rapprochement* between France and Germany. He had not, he said to me, seen any indications of a desire on the part of Germany to be conciliatory. On the contrary, according to the "Temps," issued this afternoon (which bears the date of to-morrow), Dr. Rosen was supporting German merchants in negotiations with the Moorish Government for Concessions which the Act of Algeciras, by its Article 106, reserved for public tender. M. Pichon's information from the French Minister at Tangier was that Dr. Rosen defended his action in the matter on the plea that the money for the works in question would be supplied by the Moorish Government; but it was well known that that Government had no money, and would be obliged to borrow the funds required.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, extracted from the "Temps," the telegram from its correspondent at Tangier referred to by M. Pichon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

Inclosure in No. 46.

Extract from the "Temps" of April 18, 1907.

L'Allemagne et l'Acte d'Algésiras.

Tanger, le 17 *Avril*, 1907.

JE suis en mesure de confirmer et de préciser mes dépêches précédentes du 13 et du 14 Avril au sujet des accords conclus contrairement à l'Acte d'Algésiras entre des négociants Allemands, appuyés par le Docteur Rosen, Ministre d'Allemagne, et le Makhzen.

Sur un point seulement je dois rectifier ma première dépêche. Ce n'est pas avec la maison Borgeaud-Reutman (chargée, en vertu de l'Accord Franco-Allemand du 28 Septembre, 1905, des travaux du môle de Tanger) que Torrès a traité pour les travaux d'égouts et la construction d'un boulevard. C'est avec la maison Renschenhaus. Le montant du devis, comme je vous l'ai télégraphié, est de 900,000 marks.

Le Corps Diplomatique avait estimé que ces travaux ne pouvaient être entrepris que par voie d'adjudication. Cela résulte avec une parfaite netteté du texte même de l'Acte d'Algésiras qui dit:—

"Article 106. Dans le cas où le Gouvernement Chérifien croirait devoir faire appel aux capitaux étrangers ou à l'industrie étrangère pour l'exploitation de services publics ou pour l'exécution de travaux publics, routes, chemins de fer, ports, télégraphes, et autres, les Puissances Signataires se réservent de veiller à ce que l'autorité de l'État sur ces grandes entreprises d'intérêt général demeure entière.

"Article 107. La validité des Concessions qui seraient faites aux termes de l'Article 106 ainsi que pour les fournitures de l'État sera subordonnée, dans tout l'Empire Chérifien, au principe de l'adjudication publique, sans acception de nationalité."

Malgré la précision de ces Articles, M. Rosen, Ministre d'Allemagne, n'a pas fait droit aux observations de M. Regnault, Ministre de France, quand celui-ci lui a rappelé qu'une adjudication était indispensable.

En même temps, les travaux du port de Larache (confiés ainsi que le môle de Tanger à l'industrie Allemande, comme ceux de Safi et de Casablanca à l'industrie Française) ont été élevés par la maison Allemande Haessner, à un chiffre très supérieur à celui qui avait été primitivement prévu. Le devis de ces travaux se monte actuellement à la somme de 5,000,000 marks.

Lors de l'Accord Franco-Allemand de Septembre 1905, il avait été entendu que les travaux concédés respectivement aux maisons Allemandes et Françaises à Tanger, Larache, Safi, et Casablanca se feraient équilibre. L'élévation du devis des travaux de Larache rompt cet équilibre au profit de l'Allemagne dans une proportion de près de 50 pour cent.

Enfin, le bruit court avec persistance que l'industrie Allemande aurait l'intention de traiter directement avec le Makhzen pour la construction à Tanger d'un vaste port-abri. Dans les milieux Allemands, on nie que ce projet soit définitif. Mais on soutient qu'il serait légitime, ce qui est évidemment contraire aux stipulations de l'Acte d'Algésiras.

Cet ensemble d'incidents cause à Tanger une impression pénible. On s'étonne de l'attitude du Docteur Rosen. Et on regrette que l'Acte d'Algésiras se trouve ainsi remis en question par les prétentions Allemandes.

Notre correspondant particulier de Berlin nous téléphone d'autre part:—

"*Berlin, le* 17 *Avril*, 1907.

"Je crois savoir que M. Jules Cambon, Ambassadeur de France, sera reçu aujourd'hui par M. de Tschirschky et qu'il sera, dans cette visite, question du Maroc."

[12596] No. 47.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 19.)

(No. 31.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, April* 19, 1907.

CONTRACT for drainage and road works at Tangier.

The German Minister shows much concern that so great a stir should have been raised by the question. According to him, he took no part in the matter, and he asserts that as the Sultan's Commissioner was authorized by the Sanitary Council to come to an agreement with the engineer in regard to the extension of drain, and that as the land reclaimed will pay for the works, the Company, in his opinion, have in no way exceeded their rights, nor is the Act of Algeciras in any way contravened.

It would seem to me that the contract infringes Articles 106 and 107, as it was merely a trifling work considered urgent at the time which was sanctioned a year ago.

[12620] No. 48.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 19.)

(No. 32.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, April* 19, 1907.

TOBACCO monopoly.

With reference to your telegram No. 20 of the 18th instant, I beg leave to point out that Article 73 of the Algeciras Act, by the words following the words "Corps Diplomatique," lays it down that the procedure provided in Articles 116, 117, and 118 must be followed when choosing the experts.

When drawing up the list of General Arbiters under Article 118, we could of course insist on British Arbiters being included, but it would appear that it is from this list that the Arbiters must be selected by the tobacconists and by the Moorish Government.

[12625] No. 49.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 19.)

(No. 33.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, April* 19, 1907.

WITH reference to your telegram No. 20 of the 18th instant.

It is maintained by Count Kodziebrodski that the Austrian Government have, under Article 117 of the Algeciras Act, every right to select expert upon being invited

to do so by the Makhzen. He asks that any communication which is to be made may be addressed to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs at Vienna.

I will take no action with my colleagues or the Moorish Government pending further instructions from you.

[13004] No. 50.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Lascelles.

(No. 114.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 19, 1907.

I REMINDED Herr von Stumm to-day that he had spoken to me of the possibility of removing suspicions by timely explanations, and I told him that it appeared concessions had been given to a German firm at Tangier for works which, under the Algeciras Act, ought to have been put up to public tender.

I had asked Mr. Lowther, at Tangier, to ask for information from Dr. Rosen, and to explain to him that we were bound to uphold the Algeciras Act. I had done this, not to make difficulties in advance, but because I hoped difficulties might be avoided by asking for information, and discussing the matter before Dr. Rosen was officially committed to the support of anything in contravention of the Algeciras Act. I thought it was better that we should do this before we had been invited to join in any official protest to the Maghzen, or had made one ourselves.

Herr von Stumm said he was sure his Government wanted to uphold the Algeciras Act. They had always at the Conference contended for equal opportunities, a rôle which had not been very popular at the time. He did not know the circumstances of this particular case at Tangier, but he was sure the German Government would not give any support to a contravention of the Act, and that if Dr. Rosen had done so his action would not be upheld.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[12674] No. 51.

Consul Macleod to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 20.)

(No. 2.)

Sir, *Fez, April* 9, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 1 of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to report that on the afternoon of the 2nd instant the Shereefian letter, alluded to therein, was read in the Karuin Mosque here.

The reading of the letter was attended by 2,000 or 3,000 persons, almost all of the less respectable classes, the quietest inhabitants keeping away, in case of a disturbance.

There was a good deal of jeering at the Moorish Government, and, in regard to the occupation of Oujdah, mutterings to the effect that such things did not happen in Mulai-al-Hassan's time were to be heard very generally.

The assembly dispersed quietly, however, and happily there has been no hostility shown to foreigners, and such little sensation as the events at Marakesh and Oujdah occasioned seems now to have subsided.

The French Consul informs me that the principal criminals in connection with the attack on M. de Gironcourt, particularly a slave-boy who started it, have now been imprisoned.

The French Consul states also that at Oujdah everything has, he learns, gone on well. The townspeople made no sort of opposition, and the neighbouring tribes have been unanimous in welcoming the French forces. Deputations of the tribes came at once to inquire whether they might trade freely to Oujdah and across the frontier. They were assured they could do so, and brisker trade (principally in sheep) than has been known for many years at once set in. The main cause of this, however, is, the French Consul states, that the occupation of Oujdah has freed the tribesmen on the Moorish side from the hindrances and discouragements which covertly the Moorish authorities had these two or three years imposed on traffic into Algeria. Further, the Consul said that the French were confident they would not be molested either by the Pretender or by Bu-Amama.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

[12667] No. 52.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 20.)

(No. 94.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 10, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, in obedience to the instructions contained in your telegram of the 8th instant, I have on that day attached my signature to the Agreement for the formation of an international Company for the working of wireless telegraphy in this country, in the following form:—

"En ce qui me concerne, je ne vois aucune objection au projet de Société de M. Henri Popp."

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[12668] No. 53.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 20.)

(No. 95.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 12, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch received from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida, reporting that the Governor had informed him and his colleagues that an attack was about to be made on that town by the neighbouring tribesmen. A meeting of the Consular Body was held, and the Governor was requested to communicate with the commander of a body of troops in that neighbourhood, who replied that there was no cause to fear.

The Foreign Representatives here having all received similar reports from their Consular Officers at Dar-al-Baida, discussed the matter at a meeting held yesterday, and it was decided to address a note on the subject to Sid-ben-Sliman. I beg leave to transmit herewith translation of this note.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 53.

Consul Madden to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 43.)

Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, April* 6, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Governor of the town sent to me yesterday evening to inform me verbally that the tribes intended to attack the town either to-morrow or Monday, the 7th instant. No reason was given, and a similar message was made to the Consuls of France, Germany, and Spain.

The French Consul doyen called us together last night, and it was decided to invite all the Representatives of the Powers here to a Consular meeting this morning at the French Consulate. I have the honour to inclose copy of the *procès-verbal* drawn up.

As the Governor of Dar-al-Baida is weak and appears incapable of guaranteeing the general security, it was decided to ask him to communicate with Mulay-el-Amin in Mediuna, and request him to come and protect the town. The meeting resolved to await Mulay-el-Amin's reply, expected this evening, before taking further action.

For some time past there have been rumours, more or less defined, of intended hostile action on the part of the tribes against this town, and principally of an anti-French nature, but nothing has happened, and, judging from native reports, it would appear that the projected demonstration will not be of great moment. Nevertheless, as a precautionary measure it seems very necessary to have a strong Governor, with a force of Moorish troops sufficient to secure the safety of the town and environs, so many European dwellings and places of business existing outside the walls.

The Governor generally considered the most suitable for this place is said to be Ci-Hamel-ben-Arbi-Mediuna, a former Kaïd of Dar-el-Baida, now employed at Fez. He knows how to deal with the Arabs, and has, I am informed, before now dealt satisfactorily with tribal demonstrations like the present one.

There is undoubtedly a feeling of unrest about, and it appears to be on the increase, the demeanour of the natives even near the town being often unfriendly to Europeans.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. MADDEN.

P.S.—*April* 7.—I beg to add that late last night the town Governor communicated to me by message the reply from Mulay-el-Amin, which was to the effect that he undertook to say that the approaching visit of the tribes to the town need not cause apprehension.

A. M. M.

Inclosure 2 in No. 53.

Procès-verbal of Meeting of Consular Body of Casablanca, held April 6, 1907, *in the French Consulate.*

Étaient présents :

M. Malpertuy, Consul de France (Doyen).
M. Rotondo, Consul d'Espagne.
M. Luderitz, Consul d'Allemagne.
M. Madden, Consul d'Angleterre.
M. Lapeen, Vice-Consul de Brésil.
M. Butter, Vice-Consul de Danemark et Hollande.
M. Garassino, Agent Consulaire d'Italie, Gérant du Vice-Consulat de Belgique.
M. de Freitas, Vice-Consul de Portugal.
M. Tod, Vice-Consul des États-Unis, par intérim d'Autriche-Hongrie et Suède.

M. Malpertuy expose qu'il a reçu verbalement, ainsi que ses autres collègues, avis officiel du Gouverneur de Casablanca que les tribus ont l'intention de venir attaquer la ville Dimanche ou Lundi matin. Quelles sont les mesures à prendre ?

M. Rotondo insiste sur le peu d'autorité du Gouverneur de Casablanca, qui n'a ni force morale ni force matérielle. En avisant officiellement le Corps Consulaire, il reconnaît qu'il ne peut assurer la sécurité au cas où les tribus mettraient leur projet à exécution. Chacun, dans ces conditions, a le droit et le devoir de prendre les mesures nécessaires. A son avis, il conviendrait de faire partir pour Tanger le vapeur "Meurthe," qui est en rade, afin de prévenir les Légations et demander l'envoi d'un certain nombre de soldats du Sultan (500) et quelques navires de guerre sur la côte.

Avant de prendre une décision aussi grave, *M. Luderitz* propose d'inviter le Gouverneur de Casablanca à préciser les raisons de sa communication et à déclarer s'il est capable d'assurer la sécurité des Européens et des biens, tant dans la ville qu'au dehors ; dans la négation, inviter le Kaïd à faire appel sans retard aux troupes Chérifiennes campées à trois heures de Casablanca sous le commandement de Moulay Lamin.

Comme il y a unanimité sur le manque d'autorité du Gouverneur, *M. Malpertuy* propose d'envoyer séance tenante MM. les drogmans chez le Gouverneur pour l'inviter à répondre aux questions posées ci-dessus.

Cette proposition est adoptée à l'unanimité et la séance est suspendue jusqu'au retour de MM. les drogmans.

La séance est reprise au retour de MM. les drogmans. Le Gouverneur confirme qu'il a reçu de Moulay Lamin la nouvelle de l'attaque proposée contre la ville. Il a mis des postes de garde à toutes les portes et il a écrit et expédié en présence des drogmans une lettre pour prier Moulay Lamin et le Kaïd d'Ouled Hariz de venir immédiatement à Casablanca. Mais en même temps le Gouverneur a déclaré que Moulay Lamin n'avait, pour ainsi dire, plus de troupes, le plus grand nombre de ses soldats ayant déserté. De plus, on désarmera tous les indigènes armés entrant en ville. Quand il s'agira de protégés, les Consuls seront immédiatement avisés. Le Kaïd de Casablanca est en outre disposé à expulser la population flottante de la ville.

Devant cette réponse, *M. Rotondo* insiste de nouveau pour prévenir immédiatement Tanger et demander des troupes. Cette mesure est urgente, puisque le Kaïd déclare que Moulay Lamin n'a presque plus de soldats.

MM. Luderitz, Madden, et *Malpertuy* font en outre remarquer que les Européens et les biens en dehors de la ville ne sont l'objet d'aucune mesure de protection de la part du Gouverneur. On décide de lui faire de nouveau demander s'il répond de la sûreté des Européens et des biens en dehors de la ville.

Après une courte suspension de la séance, les deux drogmans délégués auprès du Kaïd rapportent sa réponse qu'il ne peut défendre les environs de la ville. Que si Moulay Lamin arrive à temps il pourra peut-être garantir plus de sécurité aux Européens habitant en dehors de la ville, qu'actuellement il engagea les Européens à rentrer, car en cas de danger il ne pourrait leur donner que quatre ou cinq soldats chacun.

M. Rotondo prie de compléter cette réponse par la phrase textuelle du Kaïd, "Tout est maintenant entre les mains de Dieu."

On décide d'un commun accord de retarder le départ du "Meurthe" jusqu'à l'arrivée de la réponse de Moulay Lamin.

(Signé) ADRIANO ROTONDO NICOLAS.
LUDERITZ.
A. M. MADDEN.
JUAN LAPEEN.
GARASSINO.
H. F. BUTTER.
C. H. TOD.
MALPERTUY.
MARTIUS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 53.

Note addressed to Sid-ben-Slimas by Foreign Representatives at Tangier.

LE Corps Diplomatique a décidé à l'unanimité de s'adresser à Sa Majesté le Sultan par votre entremise pour appeler son attention sur la situation de Casablanca, qui inspire de vives inquiétudes, ainsi qu'il a été constaté à l'unanimité dans la réunion du Corps Consulaire de Casablanca dont le procès-verbal est ci-joint. Le Gouvernement a annoncé aux Consuls que la tribu de Chaouia allait attaquer la ville et qu'il était important à la protéger. D'ailleurs, dans maintes circonstances ce Gouverneur, Sid Bubaker-ben-Bewzia, ne s'est pas montré à la hauteur de sa tâche, et il y aurait lieu de le remplacer par un homme énergique et capable qui prendra les mesures efficaces pour assurer la sécurité de la population et des colonies étrangères.

Le Corps Diplomatique a confiance que Sa Majesté le Sultan voudra bien édicter cette mesure de rigueur.

En outre, de pareils événements pouvant se reproduire, il y aurait lieu de faire envoyer par le Makhzen Chérifien des ordres aux Gouverneurs des tribus voisines afin que ceux-ci fassent cesser toute agitation dans leurs tribus respectives.

En attendant ces mesures, le Corps Diplomatique a pensé qu'il devait faire connaître ce qui précède à son Excellence Sid Hadj Mohammed Torrès et lui demander au cas où, d'après les renseignements qui lui seraient parvenus, la situation ne serait pas améliorée à Casablanca, de faire renforcer la garnison de cette ville par une troupe de soldats qui serait envoyée de Tanger.

Tanger, le 11 *Avril*, 1907.

[12669]

No. 54.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 20.)

(No. 96.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 12, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 93 of the 10th instant, I have the honour to report that the following is the substance of a letter from the Sultan, which was read in the mosque at Tangier yesterday, and which has been communicated to me by one who was present.

A French doctor has been murdered in Marakesh, because he raised a flag over his house. He was wrong in doing this, but the Moors were also wrong to murder him; the punishment was greatly in excess of the fault. The letter then refers to the other three incidents against Frenchmen, and says that the French in their indignation have occupied Oujdah temporarily. You may be assured that the occupation is only temporary, until the demands they have made are met. The Moorish Government, or Sultan, is prepared to spend its treasure and men in the cause of Islam, and the matter will be settled satisfactorily. Refers also to letters sent by His Majesty to his officials to keep order in their districts and keep His Majesty informed of all that passes, so that he might be able to take steps to prevent such incidents.

Matters are being discussed with the French, and all just demands will be met and the French leave Oujdah.

You are informed of the cause of the occupation of Oujdah so that it may not be imputed to anything else.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[12670] No. 55.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 20.)

(No. 97.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 12, 1907.

THE French Minister on the 9th instant received the visit of Hadj Mohammed Torres, of Hadj Mohammed Mokhri, and Cid Benasser Ghannam, all high Makhzen officials, who came to speak to him regarding the demands put forward by the French Government in connection with the murder of Dr. Mauchamp. M. Regnault had already received a note from Fez on the subject, of which a copy is herewith inclosed, but he did not consider it satisfactory, and, having communicated its substance to his Government, he was informed that he was not authorized to negotiate with the Makhzen, but merely to receive their compliance with the demands.

Of this he informed the above-mentioned Delegates, who explained that the Makhzen required more precision in the nature of the demands; for instance, there was no statement as to the sum to be paid to the family of Dr. Mauchamp, or for the institution of the hospital. M. Regnault declined to give any information on these or any other points, and the Delegates said they would refer the matter again to Fez.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 55.

Cid Ben Sliman to M. Regnault.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.)

17 *Safar*, 1325 (*March* 31, 1907).

I RECEIVED your letter about the incident of Dr. Nauchamp, and what resulted therefrom, in which you ask for the arrest of the Khalifa of the Governor of Marakesh and his imprisonment at Tangier until the facts be verified, and that arrangements be made for the Consul at Mogador to proceed to Marakesh to investigate the case, and for his due security until his return to Mogador, the payment of the compensation you mention, the carrying out of the measures you mention on the frontier, and the removal of all causes of harm in the region of Adrar in the Sahara, as information has reached you that Moulai Edris and Sheikh Ma-el-Aineen are busy in that part; you state that your respected Government has instructed its troops to occupy Oujda until the required satisfactions are given and the police organized in accordance with Treaties and Conventions. I took note, and informed His Majesty of this. His Majesty has instructed me to convey his regret at this regrettable incident, on hearing of which His Majesty was caused the greatest concern. Before receipt of your letter most stringent Shereefian Orders were sent for the elucidation of the facts, for the arrest of the perpetrators (of the crime), and for the verification of the causes which

led to the occurrence and the dismissal of the Khalifa of the Governor, although there may be no reason shown for his dismissal. The Governor who is to replace him is preparing to leave the Court for that town.

Subsequently to this a letter was received from the said Khalifa explaining the matter as follows: When the townspeople saw the innovation introduced by the doctor on his house—a thing to which they were unaccustomed—and also that placed by his friend in the Mellah (Jewish quarter) facing it a riot occurred. Immediately the Khalifa had news of the riot he dispatched his son with a number of men to restore tranquillity and drive away the rioters from the doctor's place. This force was received with shots and a fight took place in which two of them were killed and three wounded. On reaching the place where the doctor was, he found that he had been killed, the rioters being in considerable and superior numbers, and if the town officials had not hastened to their assistance the matter would have been more serious.

As the Khalifa has been ill and infirm for some time, orders have been sent for his son, the Khalifa, to proceed to Tangier to answer the case and to explain what occurred, and Shereefian orders have also been sent to make the necessary preparations for your Consul at Mogador to proceed to Marakesh and return in safety. Letters to the Governor of Mogador to this effect are inclosed herewith.

But O friend when anything unaccustomed happens it causes great concern, therefore when His Shereefian Majesty heard that your Government intended to give orders for the occupation of Oujda he was greatly perplexed, and he regretted that the French Government should take such an unexpected step, especially as it had made no demands of the Moorish Government, nor had the latter refused to give satisfaction. The evils which will arise in this country from that action are apparent, and those evils will affect Moors and foreigners residing in it alike, it will also give rise to wrong ideas in the minds of the people, and this will make it difficult to give satisfaction and put into force the Act of Algeciras as you request. Similar incidents have occurred elsewhere and justice has been done with a clear conscience and without the taking of measures which give rise to wrong ideas amongst the people, who do not understand their object; this will cause difficulties between the two neighbouring nations. However, instructions have been sent to Cid Hadj Mohammed Torres and his colleagues to discuss with you all that is necessary to bring about a settlement of the demands referred to by you, as he will tell you, and His Majesty trusts you will assist in this and meet those officials with your usual graciousness, so that the matter may be settled in a satisfactory manner, all its difficulties cleared up, and nothing remain for revision.

May you, &c.

[13478] No. 56.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 27.)

(No. 98.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 14, 1907.

AN arrangement having been arrived at on principle for the promotion of an international Company for the establishment of wireless telegraphy in Morocco, my French colleague has been approached by the German Minister with a view to coming to a similar arrangement for a water supply for this town, for which the French claim the privilege, having put forward a scheme as far back as October 1905, which scheme was practically approved by the "Conseil Sanitaire" of this town, but which was blocked by the action of the Makhzen authorities. This question was fully reported on in my despatches Nos. 86 and 107 of the 14th May and 15th June, 1906.

Dr. Rosen now invited M. Regnault to state the terms on which an arrangement could be arrived at in which a German Company might have a share. M. Regnault replied that he felt that M. Regis, having received the consent of the "Conseil Sanitaire," was entitled to a privileged position in any new undertaking in compensation for the loss he had sustained owing to his having been prevented from executing his works.

Dr. Rosen criticized M. Regis' scheme, the quality of the pipes he had introduced, and his plans for laying the same, all of which criticisms M. Regnault declared were

matters for experts to examine, but maintained his position that M. Regis was entitled to compensation, and Dr. Rosen, it seems, left him protesting that it was impossible to come to terms with a colleague who put forward such unreasonable pretensions on the part of his nationals.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13479] No. 57.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 27.)

(No. 99. Confidential.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 15, 1907.

M. GUIOT, the representative of the French bondholders and of the consortium of the French banks, and a member of the "Comité Spécial" of the State Bank of Morocco, informed me to-day that several meetings of the bank were to be held in the course of the next month in Paris.

Hadj Dris Benjelun, the Moorish representative, to whom I referred in my despatch No. 30 of the 8th February, is now here, and has no intention of proceeding to Paris. To the surprise of M. Guiot and those concerned, this Moorish official has designated the French representative in Paris to take his place, and, if necessary, vote for him.

M. Guiot is unable to explain this decision, which is entirely contrary to what was anticipated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13480] No. 58.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 27.)

(No. 100.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 15, 1907.

I TOOK an opportunity to-day at a plenary meeting of the foreign Representatives and of the Moorish Delegates to inquire of the latter whether no decision had been arrived at concerning the putting into force the Articles of the Act of Algeciras dealing with coasting trade, custom-house reform, and the exportation of cattle, as I had understood that it had been stated at Fez that the Sultan's Decree had been issued to that effect, and three and a-half months had now passed since the Act of Algeciras had been ratified by His Shereefian Majesty.

The Moorish Delegates replied that this Decree had actually been issued, but was accompanied by an instruction to the Sultan's Representatives here to draw up Regulations governing these matters, that this had now been done, and had been returned to Fez for approval.

As a year has elapsed since the Act of Algeciras was signed, which would have given ample time for the drawing up of the required regulation, I fear this delay must be regarded as fresh evidence, if any were required, of a disinclination on the part of the Moorish Government to put the Act of Algeciras into force.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13159] No. 59.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 24.)

(No. 101.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 16, 1907.

IN my despatch No. 32 of the 6th February, I reported that the German scheme for the construction of a large drain and a road running along the beach had been discussed by the Diplomatic Corps, and had met with considerable opposition, Dr. Rosen being eventually asked to furnish fuller information on the subject.

Nothing further was, however, heard from Dr. Rosen with regard to the question. But a few days ago it was stated that a German firm had signed a contract with the

Moorish Government for this work, the sum agreed upon being 36,000*l*., and not 25,000*l*. as originally stated, and this report is now confirmed by Hadj Mohammed Torres.

My French colleague on hearing this immediately called on Dr. Rosen, and asked him if it was true. He at once admitted it, and maintained that as the Corps Diplomatique had at one time authorized the German contractor to come to an arrangement with Hadj Mohammed Torres on the subject he had no further authority to obtain, thus completely ignoring the discussion reported in my despatch No. 32. Dr. Rosen further argued that this question was precisely similar to the Regis Waterworks scheme, which has formed the subject of some correspondence with your Office, but M. Regnault explained that M. Regis merely applied for and obtained an authorization, and did not ask any payment from the Makhzen for works done. Dr Rosen in thus setting aside all question of adjudication as provided by the Act of Algeciras, has adopted a high-handed attitude which my French colleague considers most serious, and as convincing evidence that the German Government has no intention of keeping within the letter of the Act of Algeciras as far as she is concerned, no matter how much she may insist upon it for others.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13481] No. 60.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 27.)

(No. 102.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 16, 1907.

ARTICLE 45 of the Act of Algeciras provides for the establishment of a special Tribunal for deciding actions brought against the State Bank of Morocco.

The composition of this Tribunal has been considered by the Diplomatic Corps at some of their meetings, and a provisional agreement has been reached.

I inclose herewith the draft of a scheme for the automatic appointment of this Tribunal, which seems both fair and practical, and I venture to submit it to your consideration in the event of your desiring to suggest any amendment of the same.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 60.

Draft Scheme respecting Appointment of Bank Tribunal.

LE Tribunal institué par l'Article 45, paragraphe 2, de l'Acte Général d'Algésiras est composé de trois Magistrats Consulaires et de deux Assesseurs, auxquels sont adjoints, pour le cas de vacance, trois Magistrats Suppléants et de deux Assesseurs Suppléants.

La désignation des trois Magistrats titulaires et des deux Assesseurs titulaires, puis des trois Magistrats Suppléants et des deux Assesseurs Suppléants, s'effectuera successivement chaque année, à raison d'un seul membre titulaire ou suppléant par pays, en suivant l'ordre alphabétique des Puissances Signataires de l'Acte Général.

Le sort désigne pour la première année la Puissance appelée à commencer l'ordre alphabétique. L'année suivante la liste est reprise après les trois Puissances qui ont désigné les trois Magistrats titulaires, et ainsi de suite.

Chaque année dans la première quinzane de Décembre le Corps Diplomatique établit la composition du Tribunal qui restera en fonction pendant l'année suivante.

Si, pour une cause quelconque, une Puissance appelée à faire une désignation n'est pas en mesure d'y procéder, elle perd son droit pour cette fois, et le tour passe à la Puissance rangée alphabetiquement après elle.

Le Gouvernement des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, qui n'a pas participé à la constitution de la Banque d'Etat du Maroc, ayant résolu de ne pas exercer son droit de désignation, le Corps Diplomatique prend acte de sa décision.

[13482] No. 61.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 27.)

(No. 103.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 16, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 40 of the 17th February, I have the honour to report that my French colleague yesterday inquired of Dr. Rosen whether he had any communication to make to him regarding the contemplated harbour works at Laraiche, which had already formed the subject of conversation between them.

Before replying, Dr. Rosen asked whether the information was for himself or for the newspapers, as he had noticed that on the occasion of their last conversation on the subject the gist of it had appeared in a local French paper. M. Regnault said that the announcement then made was due to the indiscretion of some German engineers and not to his, and that whatever statement Dr. Rosen might make he would certainly communicate to his Government, and perhaps to some of his colleagues. Dr. Rosen then stated that it was the intention of a German firm to carry out harbour works for a sum of 5,000,000 marks at Laraiche, but that in any case he did not see how it concerned M. Regnault, as by the declaration made by the Moorish Delegates at Algeciras the port works at Tangier and Laraiche had been reserved for the Germans, and those at Casablanca and Saffi for the French. M. Regnault replied that this was so, but that it was clear that the Conference understood that the sums to be expended should at any rate be approximate if not equal, and that the estimated expenditure on Tangier and Laraiche ports would now amount to about 286,000*l.*, whereas that to be expended on Casablanca and Saffi would be about 142,000*l.* This disparity to the disadvantage of France was evidently most unfair and not in agreement with the spirit of the Act of Algeciras. He was of opinion that the original schemes which had been suggested to the Makhzen should be adhered to. Dr. Rosen did not share this view, and said that the extent of the works was a matter entirely between himself and the Makhzen.

Inquiry was then made by the French Minister as to whether there was any truth in a report in circulation that a certain Herr Lauter, a well-known German engineer, was here in connection with a new and very extensive scheme for harbour works here. After demurring for some time to giving a definite reply, Dr. Rosen saying that this was a matter that concerned Germany alone, he replied that "for the present" there was no intention of obtaining a contract for this work.

M. Regnault is becoming very impatient at the action of the German Minister, who he considers has a singular idea of the open door and the interpretation to be placed on the Act of Algeciras in these matters. He is telegraphing to Paris a full account of his conversation with Dr. Rosen, hoping that some explanation may be asked for in Berlin, and he trusts that in this respect France will have the support of Great Britain.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13484] No. 62.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 27.)

(No. 105.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 17, 1907.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 58 of the 8th instant, I have the honour to report that, according to information received from the French Legation, the Makhzen have made no attempt to justify their action in regard to the detention by the customs officials of the wireless telegraphy materials, beyond stating that the materials in question have been detained owing to their being destined for the installation of wireless telegraphy, which is prohibited in Morocco. The French Legation are still claiming an indemnity of 500 fr. for each day of detention, but in spite of repeated protests the Moorish officials persist in refusing to pass the articles through the customs.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[12847] No. 63.

Sir F. Lascelles to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 22.)

(No. 166.)

Sir, *Berlin, April* 20, 1907.

WITH reference to your telegrams Nos. 8, 9, and 10 of the 18th and 19th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith a translation of an article published in yesterday's "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung," claiming that the canalization work at Tangier was entrusted to a German firm as a direct outcome of the action of the Diplomatic Corps in Tangier in their capacity as Sanitary Council.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. C. LASCELLES.

Inclosure in No. 63.

Extract from the "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung," of April 20, 1907.

(Translation.)

THE press has spread many misleading reports in regard to the matter of the laying down of a sewer to carry off the drainage of Tangier.

The present state of the question is as follows:—After the construction of a pier had been entrusted to the firm of Renschhausen, the question of canalization became acute The Diplomatic Corps in its capacity of Sanitary Council requested the Makhzen to communicate directly with the firm, so that the drainage might be carried off through the sewer into the open sea. In a later note the Representatives of the Powers reminded the Makhzen that the question must be settled for pressing hygienic reasons. Thereupon the Makhzen instructed M. Renschhausen to make an opening in the pier in which the sewer could be laid. The construction was accordingly a direct outcome of the action of the Diplomatic Corps. It is admittedly in conjunction with the pier works, and so it was that written instructions were sent to Torres to employ the German firm.

[12964] No. 64.

Herr von Stumm to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 22.)

Dear Sir Edward, *April* 21, 1907.

I TOOK the liberty of informing Sir Eric Barrington, in your absence from the Foreign Office on Saturday night, of a communication which I had received from Herr von Tschirschky with reference to the question of the drainage works at Tangier, which formed a subject of our conversation on Friday last. In the meantime it recurred to me that you told me you would have to answer a question in the House with regard to the matter on Monday. I therefore thought I had better give you in detail the information I received from Berlin, and according to which the English and French Ministers at Tangier, after having discussed the question with Dr. Rosen, seem to realize that they had been mistaken as to the merits of the case, and to regret the attitude taken up in the matter by leading English and French newspapers.

The facts, as they really are, would appear from an explanatory note which Dr. Rosen and M. Regnault agreed upon, and which the latter promised to give to the correspondent of the "Temps" at Tangier. It is to the following effect:—

"Après examen des détails de l'affaire de l'égout collecteur, il paraît que Sid M. Torres a pensé agir conformément à une lettre qui lui avait été adressée par le Conseil Sanitaire le 5 Mai, 1906, et dans laquelle il avait été en effet prié de s'entendre sur la construction de cet égout avec la maison Allemande Renschhausen, concessionnaire de port de Tanger. L'affaire est de la compétence du Conseil Sanitaire de Tanger, qui se compose de tous les Chefs des Missions Diplomatiques, et qui a qualité de décider sur la question. Il n'y a aucune raison de douter que cette question ne soit résolue dans le même esprit d'harmonie qui a présidé à l'élaboration des différents règlements."

I trust that the information contained in this note will be sufficient to explain to you the actual state of affairs.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) STUMM.

[12596] No. 65.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 22.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, April* 22, 1907.

[DRAINAGE and road works at Tangier.]

Your telegram No. 31 apparently crossed my No. 21.

I presume, however, that you made to German Minister a communication in the sense of the latter. German Chargé d'Affaires here tells me that you and M. Regnault have been satisfied by Dr. Rosen's explanations, which does not appear yet to be the case.

[13299] No. 66.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Lascelles.

(No. 120.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 22, 1907.

HERR VON STUMM left with me to-day this explanation of the Tangier incident.

I replied that I had not heard from Mr. Lowther since I had instructed him to speak to Dr. Rosen. I believed that some small matter connected with the sewer had been settled originally as proposed, but that this new contract was a much larger affair, of 25,000*l.* or more, and could hardly be regarded as a small matter. I should, however, no doubt hear from Mr. Lowther soon.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

Inclosure in No. 66.

Memorandum by Herr von Stumm.

DURING the negotiations carried on in Paris in autumn of 1905 the only arrangement made with regard to the construction of a mole at Tangier was that the decision of this question should depend of the production of titles. After the titles which had been granted by the Maghzen having been produced by both parties, the better right of the German firm was recognized by France.

On the 7th April, 1906, in the eighteenth session of the Algeciras Conference, the Moors declared that the construction works at the ports of Tangier, Larache, Casablanca, and Saffi could not be adjudicated for the reason that they had already been disposed of. The Conference indorsed this declaration.

From a report made by the German Minister at Tangier in the beginning of November last, it would appear that the construction of a sewer could only be carried out in connection with the building of a mole, because the sewer had to cross the mole, the construction of which had in consequence to be adapted from the beginning of the whole work; that the "Conseil Sanitaire," representing the whole Diplomatic Corps, had asked the Maghzen to intrust the works to the German firm, and that the Maghzen had complied with the request.

[13036] No. 67.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 23.)

(No. 34.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, April* 23, 1907.

YOUR telegram No. 21 of the 18th April.

I saw the German Minister to-day, on his return to Tangier, and spoke to him in the sense of your instructions.

According to Dr. Rosen, it is not true that the drainage scheme received official support from German Government. In their opinion, as the Makhzen had obtained authorization from the Sanitary Council, there was no contravention of the Algeciras Act.

It is true that Sultan's Commissioner was asked by the Sanitary Council to come to an arrangement with German engineers in the matter, which was represented as one of urgency for the health of the town, and Dr. Rosen's statement is so far correct; a large expenditure was not, however, contemplated by the Council.

With reference to your telegram No. 22, which has just been received, the German Minister told his French colleague a few days ago that the question could, in his opinion, be left to the decision of the Sanitary Council, but he expressed no such view in his conversation with me to-day, an account of which I have given to M. Regnault. The majority of my colleagues appear still to hold the views previously expressed by them, as described by me in my despatch No. 32 of the 6th February last.

[13136] No. 68.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 23.)

(No. 35.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, April* 23, 1907.

TANGIER and Laraiche Harbour Works.

With reference to your despatch No. 140 of the 28th November, 1906, the German Minister categorically stated to me yesterday that all question of adjudication is excluded in regard to these works, which are claimed by Germany both now and for the future.

In support of this claim Dr. Rosen put forward the same arguments as those previously used by him in speaking to Mr. White (see Mr. White's despatch No. 225 of the 30th November, 1906), with the exception that he now alleges that it was previous to the German Emperor's visit that the grant of this Concession was made. This cannot, however, be regarded as conclusive, according to the French Minister, to whom I have spoken.

[13160] No. 69.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 24.)

(No. 107.)
Sir, *Tangier, April* 18, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a copy of a note I have received from Hadj Mohammed Torres, transmitting the "Cahier des Charges" for the tobacco monopoly which it is proposed to establish under Articles 73 and 74 of the Act of Algeciras without awaiting the approval of the "Règlement" on adjudication.

It was suggested to the Moorish Delegates that the "Cahier des Charges" should be drawn up in agreement with the Diplomatic Corps; but this suggestion was rejected. As, however, the conditions seem to be open to some objection, it may yet be possible to obtain some modification of them.

I beg leave to note some points which appear to me to be either in contradiction with the Act of Algeciras or to be opposed to a fair working of the monopoly.

Article 5. The date fixed for the adjudication, namely, the 1st June, does not allow sufficient time for the conditions of tender to become known.

Article 6. The contract is to be given to the person who shall have submitted the most generally advantageous offer. This wording follows that of Article 110 of the Act of Algeciras, but the "Règlement" on adjudications will no doubt contain some more definite plan of adjudicating, and in this case the decision will rest entirely with the Makhzen, and there is no indication as to whether a sum paid down is sought for a division of profits.

Article 9. In this Article all tobacco is admitted free of duty, but the fact appears to have been ignored that the customs duties are the security for the payment of the French Loan of 1904.

Article 17. This Article provides that the majority of the workmen employed must be Moors, which would seem to open the door to an interference with the equal rights in commerce of foreigners.

Article 19. Cases between the concessionnaire and the Makhzen are to be tried by a Tribunal of three, who may possibly be Moors, and no mention is made of any appeal. This would appear to remove the foreigner from the jurisdiction of his own Courts.

Article 21. "Les avantages financiers": the term requires further explanation.

Article 23. In case of the death of the concessionnaire, the Makhzen reserves the right either to break the contract or bind the successors to carry on the business. This seems to me to be both unfair and impracticable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 69.

Mohammed-ben-el-Arbi Torres to Mr. G. Lowther.

Sir, *Tangier*, 1 *Rabia I*, 1325 (*April* 14, 1907).

AS the Makhzen has the monopoly for the sale of tobacco in the Shereefian dominions, and has decided to offer the said monopoly to public tender, a copy of the conditions of tender is inclosed herewith in order that you may notify your nationals who may desire to send in tenders, as the general meeting for this purpose has been fixed for the 1st June, 1907.

May you, &c.

Inclosure 2 in No. 69.

Extract from the "Dépêche Marocaine" of April 19, 1907.

CAHIER DES CHARGES POUR L'ADJUDICATION DU MONOPOLE DES TABACS DANS L'EMPIRE CHÉRIFIEN.

NOUS publions, "à titre de curiosité," le Cahier des Charges établi par les Délégués Chérifiens, en vue de l'adjudication du monopole des tabacs. Ce document a été adressé hier aux Ministres étrangers, qui auront certainement à formuler des observations sur nombre d'Articles, contraires aux termes de l'Acte d'Algésiras.

Nous n'entamons pas une critique de détail de ce Cahier des Charges.

Le Corps Diplomatique se chargera de cet office ingrat; car, quant à nous, nous voyons plutôt avec sympathie les efforts sincères auxquels s'exercent les Délégués Chérifiens pour se "mettre dans le mouvement."

Simplement, nous croyons bon d'avertir nos lecteurs—qui seraient des candidats éventuels au monopole—de ne pas considérer comme définitives les clauses et conditions qui suivent:—

Article 1er. Pour pouvoir concourir à l'adjudication du monopole du tabac dans l'Empire Chérifien, les soumissionnaires, qu'ils soient indigènes ou étrangers, doivent déposer à la Banque d'État du Maroc un cautionnement provisoire fixé à la somme de 50,000 douros Makhzani or.

Ce cautionnement provisoire sera restitué aux soumissionnaires, qui ne seront pas déclarés adjudicataires en séance publique, au vu de la main-levée donnée par la délégation Chérfienne; pour ceux qui seront déclarés adjudicataires, ils ont à réaliser, dans les vingt jours qui suivent la notification de l'adjudication, le cautionnement définitif fixé à 100,000 douros Makhzani or et qui devra être déposé aussi à la Banque d'État du Maroc.

Le cautionnement définitif reste affecté à la garantie des engagements contractés par les adjudicataires jusqu'à la fin du contrat.

Sont acquis au fonds du Trésor Chérifien les cautionnements provisoires des soumissionnaires qui, déclarés adjudicataires, n'ont pas réalisé leurs cautionnements définitifs dans le délai de vingt jours précédemment cité.

Les cautionnements provisoires ou définitifs peuvent consister, au choix des soumissionnaires et adjudicataires:

1. En numéraire ou en billets payables en or de la Banque d'État du Maroc;
2. En titres de rente sur l'État des Puissances signataires de l'Acte Général d'Algésiras.

La valeur en capital des titres à affecter aux cautionnements est calculée pour les

cautionnements provisoires au cours moyen du jour de la veille du dépôt; pour les cautionnements définitifs, au cours moyen du jour de l'adjudication.

Les cautionnements, quelle qu'en soit la nature, sont soumis aux règlements spéciaux à la Banque d'État du Maroc.

Art. 2. Tout soumissionnaire est tenu de produire un certificat de nationalité délivré par son autorité Consulaire ou par les autorités compétentes pour les indigènes.

Art. 3. Nul n'est admis à concourir aux adjudications s'il ne signe une déclaration comme quoi il a pris connaissance du présent Cahier des Charges et qu'il en accepte toutes les conditions.

Art. 4. Toute offre portant une modification de quelque nature que ce soit dans le texte des conditions du présent Cahier des Charges sera considérée nulle et non avenue, et le concurrent sera, par ce seul fait, écarté de l'adjudication.

Sera écartée également toute offre qui ne sera pas parvenue à la délégation Chérifienne dans les délais fixés ci-dessus.

Art. 5. Le dernier délai pour la réception des soumissions est fixé à la séance publique d'adjudication qui aura lieu au Dar-el-Makhzen à la Casbah le 1er Juin, 1907, à 3 heures du soir. La séance ouverte, chaque concurrent devra être muni des pièces suivantes:—

(1.) Un certificat de la Banque d'État du Maroc constatant le versement dans la caisse de la Banque du cautionnement provisoire;
(2.) La déclaration prévue à l'Article 3;
(3.) Une soumission signée par lui ou par son représentant;
(4.) Le certificat de nationalité prévu à l'Article 2.

Toute soumission qui ne sera pas accompagnée du récépissé de cautionnement, de la déclaration prévue à l'Article 3 et du certificat de nationalité sera déclarée nulle et non avenue.

Art. 6. La soumission sera insérée seule, sans aucune autre pièce ou déclaration, dans une enveloppe sur laquelle seront inscrits les nom et adresse des soumissionnaires. L'enveloppe contenant la soumission devra être fermée. Puis le soumissionnaire l'insérera dans un pli qui devra contenir, en outre, le certificat de cautionnement, la déclaration et le certificat de nationalité.

Ce pli, également fermé, sera déposé par le soumissionnaire ou son représentant, au début de la séance d'adjudication, entre les mains de la délégation Chérifienne. Il pourra être envoyé par la poste au nom de la délégation Chérifienne à la Casbah, mais à la condition d'être contenu dans un autre pli recommandé avec une lettre indiquant que les pièces incluses se rapportent à l'adjudication des tabacs; le pli recommandé devra être parvenu à la délégation Chérifienne quarante-huit heures avant la séance d'adjudication. Dans ce dernier cas, le pli intérieur sera déposé sur le bureau après la remise des plis des autres concurrents.

Les soumissions des autres concurrents agréés seront ouvertes publiquement; il en sera donné lecture à haute voix. Le soumissionnaire qui, en se conformant aux prescriptions du présent Cahier des Charges, présentera l'offre remplissant les conditions générales les plus avantageuses, sera déclaré adjudicataire, sauf approbation du Makhzen.

Les soumissions, les déclarations, et les autres pièces doivent être ou en Arabe ou en Français.

Art. 7. Les adjudicataires sont tenus de se conformer aux mœurs, règlements, et impôts du pays.

Art. 8. Le Makhzen prendra toutes les mesures nécessaires pour empêcher la contrebande des tabacs. Les tabacs saisis en contrebande seront livrés aux adjudicataires contre le versement de tous les frais qui en ont résulté.

Art. 9. Les tabacs importés, fabriqués ou non fabriqués, ainsi que le papier nécessaire à l'exploitation, sont exempts de la taxe douanière. Toutefois, les adjudicataires doivent se conformer à tous les règlements de l'Administration de la Douane.

Art. 10. Le transport par cabotage des tabacs fabriqués ou non fabriqués est permis conformément aux droits spéciaux et aux règlements sur la matière.

Art. 11. Le prix de la vente des tabacs fabriqués ou non fabriqués est fixé tous les ans par le Makhzen d'accord avec les adjudicataires.

Art. 12. La forme des marques et des étiquettes devra être agréée par le Makhzen.

Art. 13. Le nombre des débits dans chaque ville est fixé tous les ans par le Makhzen d'accord aves les adjudicataires.

Art. 14. Les adjudicataires ne pourront en aucun cas cultiver ou faire cultiver les tabacs dans l'Empire Chérifien sans l'autorisation du Makhzen. Ils sont tenus à se soumettre au jugement du Makhzen pour cet effet.

Art. 15. Les endroits des emplacements nécessaires à l'exploitation du monopole sont choisis par le Makhzen d'accord avec les adjudicataires.

Art. 16. En cas d'incendie, le Makhzen n'encoure aucune responsabilité.

Art. 17. Les employés et les ouvriers seront recrutés en majeure partie parmi les sujets de Sa Majeste Chérifienne. Les indigènes sans exception suivent les lois du pays et en cas de grève le Makhzen est seul juge pour donner une solution équitable dans l'intérêt des deux parties.

Art. 18. Le Makhzen exercera sa haute surveillance sur le monopole des tabacs par trois Commissaires dont les appointements, qui seront à la charge de l'entreprise, ne peuvent être inférieurs à 36,000 fr. par an. Ces Commissaires auront le droit de prendre connaissance de la gestion de l'entreprise; ils contrôleront les frais et les bénéfices et veilleront à la stricte observation des dispositions du contrat. Ils doivent surveiller l'importation des tabacs.

Art. 19. En cas de contestation sur les clauses du contrat ou de litiges pouvant survenir entre le Gouvernement Chérifien et les adjudicataires, le différend sera porté devant une Commission composée de trois membres désignés au début de chaque année par le Makhzen d'accord avec les adjudicataires.

Art. 20. Les adjudicataires ne pourront en aucun cas, ou pour quelque raison que ce soit, céder à des tiers tout ou partie du monopole.

Art. 21. Le paiement des bénéfices et des avantages financiers se fera tous les six mois.

Art. 22. Le contrat sera résilié, en cas d'infraction aux conditions de ce Cahier des Charges ou bien en cas de faillite.

La résiliation du contrat produit les effets suivants :

Le cautionnement définitif est perdu pour les adjudicataires et devient la propriété du Makhzen;

Les emplacements, machines, et en un mot tout ce qui a servi à l'exploitation du monopole deviennent la propriété du Makhzen.

Art. 23. Le Makhzen a seul faculté en cas de décès des adjudicataires de résilier le contrat, et dans le cas où le contrat n'est pas résilié, la succession des adjudicataires est tenue d'en observer les charges et les conditions.

Art. 24. Les adjudicataires s'engagent à reprendre aux négociants établis au Maroc les tabacs fabriqués ou non fabriqués, les papiers, les machines, et les outils qu'ils pourraient avoir en magasin ou en fabrique. Le prix à accorder à ces différents articles seront fixés suivant les principes de l'Acte Général d'Algésiras.

Art. 25. Le présent monopole a pour objet le monopole des tabacs de toute sorte, à l'exception du tabac à priser et du kiff dans tout l'Empire Chérifien, pour une période de trente années lunaires à dater de la signature du contrat.

Art. 26. A l'expiration du contrat, le Makhzen n'aura aucune obligation envers les adjudicataires aussi bien pour les tabacs qui leur resteraient en stock que pour toute autre chose qui leur a servi à l'exploitation du monopole.

Tanger, le 15 *Avril*, 1907.

[13253] No. 70.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 25.)

(No. 36.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Tangier, April 24, 1907.

THE German Minister, upon being asked by me to explain German Chargé d'Affaires' statement to you, referred to in your telegram No. 22, admitted that an agreement was far from being arrived at between us on the subject, while maintaining that he had said no more than that I agreed with him as to the question being one which should be settled by diplomatic negotiation and should not be made the subject of discussion in the press.

Dr. Rosen desires that the matter should rest until the views of all the Governments concerned have been communicated to their Representatives, when the question could be further considered.

[13253] No. 71.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 23.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, April 25, 1907.

REFERRING to your telegram No. 36 of the 24th instant, I do not consider Dr. Rosen's attitude satisfactory, nor the explanations offered by him. Pending receipt by your colleagues, however, of instructions from their Governments, we cannot, I think, take any further steps in the matter at Tangier.

[13486] No. 72.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 27.)

(No. 108.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 18, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida relative to the public hawking of slaves at Saffi.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 72.

Consul Madden to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 47.)
Sir,

Dar-al-Baida, April 9, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report that no case of the public hawking of slaves in the streets of towns in this Consular district has been brought to my knowledge during the quarter ended the 31st March last.

Mr. Vice-Consul Hunot, of Saffi, informs me that many young slaves from the south have been sold privately; and he had heard a rumour of some slaves having been taken from house to house for bids. Mr. Hunot had, however, warned the local authorities at Saffi that if it should come to his knowledge that slaves were being sold in any way publicly he would report the matter to Tangier.

At Rabat the Vice-Consul reports that the average sale of slaves in the "fondak" set apart for the purpose there during the quarter has been two or three slaves daily.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. MADDEN.

[13487] No. 73.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 27.)

(No. 109.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 18, 1907.

A RUMOUR having reached me from a confidential source that a German subject had signed or was on the point of signing a contract with the Sultan for a private loan of 10,000,000 fr., to be guaranteed on the cork forests of Laraiche, I communicated the report to my French colleague.

You will remember that by Article 3 of the Act of Algeciras concessions for the working of the Cork forests are to be governed by the principle of public awards or tenders.

M. Regnault took an opportunity of asking Dr. Rosen whether the report was true, and after some pressure Dr. Rosen said he did not know, but he thought some German subjects had acquired lands on which there might be trees, and in return asked M. Regnault whether French citizens had not purchased mines, to which he replied in the affirmative, but observed these had all been bought from private individuals, and that the Act of Algeciras was not infringed thereby.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13488] No. 74.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 27.)

(No. 110.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 18, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a Memorandum addressed to me by His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida, reporting a recent visit of the dragoman of the French Consulate at Mogador to Sûs and Wad Nun, and his temporary arrest while there.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 74.

Memorandum by Consul Madden.

M. ALLAL-EL-ABDI, dragoman of the French Consulate in Mogador, who recently went to Sus and Wad Nun, has returned to Mogador. He was held a prisoner for a few days and released on condition that he would return to Mogador. It is understood that M. Allal-ed-Abdi went to Sus to endeavour to come to some terms with the Sheikhs of the districts for the opening of a port below Agadir, and especially for account of the Compagnie Marocaine.

The Oomana of Mogador have received orders to dispatch to Cape Juby all the rifles and ammunition they can spare.

It is said these steps are to be taken in order to arm the garrison and natives, as there are rumours on the coast of foreign landing and foreign trading.

The Oomana have been ordered to take special precautions to guard against contraband.

Mogador, April 11, 1907.

[13490] No. 75.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 27.)

(No. 112. Confidential.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 18, 1907.

ON the eve of the opening of the State Bank of Morocco here, it may not be without interest to examine the known liabilities of the Makhzen which that bank may be called upon to discharge.

I inclose a list of these liabilities as far as they are known, but in which the figures in some instances can only be approximate, such for instance as the French claims and the advance made privately to the Sultan by Messrs. Coutts and Co.

No claims beyond the French are included in the list. An examination of the British claims outstanding against the Makhzen gives approximately the sum of 3,400,000 fr., but this may be regarded as a generous estimate. Probably all the other Legations have some claims, but not to the same extent as ours.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13489] No. 74*.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 27.)

(No. 111.)
Sir,

Tangier, April 18, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 95 of the 12th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida expressing the opinion that, though the tribes in the vicinity of that town are in an unsettled state, they are not likely to give trouble at present.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 74*.

Consul Madden to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 46.)
Sir,

Dar-al-Baida, April 9, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 43 of the 6th instant, I have the honour to report that the tribes have not come to this town, and it appears, from inquiries I have made, that the three Kabyles of M'Zab, M'Daccra, and Ulad Zian, had yesterday been to see Mulai el Amin at Mediuna, and had since dispersed.

Their grievances are said to be twofold—firstly, annoyance at several cases which have recently occurred here of Jews hitting Moors, and, secondly, the erection by Europeans of buildings outside the walls for public works.

The first matter was settled, it is said, by the payment of a sum of money by a country Jew, but the reply of Mulai-el-Amin as regards the second point is unknown.

The tribes are doubtless in an unsettled state of mind, but in my opinion they are not likely to be troublesome at present.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. MADDEN.

P.S.—April 10. It is now known that Mulai-el-Amin sent into town for 1,000 dollars, which amount the custom-house provided. Out of this sum 800 dollars was paid to the assembled tribes as a bribe to them not to come to Dar-al-Baida, 200 dollars remaining in Mulai-el-Amin's hands for gratuities, expenses, &c.

The tribes, on receiving the money, agreed to submit their complaints (which are now said to have included the revocation of the town Kaïd and of three native officials, with the delivery up of the offending Jews above referred to) in writing to the Sultan.

The whole affair seems to have been a successful attempt to extort money, and to have been due to professional agitators among the tribes.

A. M. M.

Inclosure in No. 75.

Statement of Liabilities of the Makhzen.

	Fr.
Avance Franco-Allemande	12,500,000
Avance reprise en charge par la Banque d'État, 1907	2,000,000
Remboursement des avances faites pour la police au moment de la conclusion de l'emprunt, voir Acte d'Algésiras, Article 35 ..	2,000,000
Avance Coutts	2,000,000
Réclamations Françaises	3,200,000
Construction du Port de Tanger	1,750,000
Construction du Port de Laraiche	6,250,000
Construction du Port de Casablanca	2,947,000
Construction du Port de Saffi	802,500
Travaux concédés en Avril 1907 à la Compagnie du Port de Tanger (égout, &c.)	900,000
Indemnité pour résiliation des contrats de frappe	1,200,000
Créances de la Compagnie Marocaine	3,000,000
Créances Braunschweig	2,500,000
Créances Haessner	2,000,000
Créances Pariente..	1,000,000
Total	44,049,500

[13491] No. 76.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 27.)

(No. 113.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 18, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to report, with reference to my despatch No. 96 of the 12th instant, that I learn from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida, that the Shereefian letter regarding the occupation of Oujda by the French, which has already been read in the mosques at Fez and Tangier, has also been read at Rabat and Dar-al-Baida, and copies are on their way to the other ports to be read there.

It appears that at Rabat, although a public crier had been sent round as usual the day before to invite the public to attend and hear the letter, when the Basha arrived at the mosque he found no one there. The crier was at once again sent round, but with little effect, the letter being eventually read in an almost empty mosque. The Basha wished to order a salute to be fired as usual and the band to play, but was dissuaded from doing so.

At Dar-al-Baida the Governor was desirous of having the letter read in a private part of the mosque, but he yielded to the advice of the other officials, and the letter was read from the usual place, but no public crier was sent round, and no salute was fired, the occasion not being considered one for rejoicing.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13492] No. 77.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 27.)

(No. 114.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 19, 1907.

DR. ROSEN came to see me yesterday evening and expressed great indignation at the way the press had criticized the signature of the contract signed between a German Company and the Makhzen for the construction of a drain and a road along the sea, stating that it was a breach of the Act of Algeciras.

He declared that he had nothing to do with it, that the "Conseil Sanitaire" had requested Hadj Mohammed Torres to arrange the matter with the Makhzen, and that under the contract there was no question of any payment by the Makhzen, as the Company would recoup themselves from the land reclaimed. Dr. Rosen said it was most unfair that the Germans should be accused of breaking the Act of Algeciras by the signature of this contract, which, after all, was of a trifling nature. He asked me what my opinion was, and I said that, speaking from memory, without having the advantage of having the letters that passed on the subject before me or the *procès-verbaux* of the meeting, I was of opinion that the letter that had been written to Hadj

Mohammed Torres merely authorized him to come to some arrangement with the German engineer ("de s'étendre avec" was, I believe, the phrase used), that this did not mean that he had authority to engage on works of an important kind which might involve unlimited expense, but merely to make the drain, which had been represented to us as urgent for the health of the town, and that I naturally thought that if later on more important works were contemplated this would be submitted to adjudication.

I further stated that it seemed to me that if foreign industry was to be employed it was necessary, under Article 106, that there should be adjudication.

I fear that the letter of the "Conseil Sanitaire" was not, perhaps, sufficiently explicit, and that the plea of urgency carried too much weight with it. As, however, it became apparent at the meeting of the Diplomatic Body on the 2nd February that there seemed little possibility of sanction being obtained for the necessary expenditure under Articles 61 and 66 of the Algeciras Act, the Company deemed it more prudent to devise another means of carrying out the work.

At the meeting above alluded to the sum of 25,000*l.* was contemplated, and I then protested against so large an expenditure being made, and I understood that further details were to be called for from the "Commission d'Hygiène."

For some reason, so far unexplained, this information was never asked for, and in the meantime the Company have signed the contract for the sum of 36,000*l.*

It will be interesting to see the contract if there is any possibility of insisting on its production, but I incline to the belief that Dr. Rosen, finding that such a storm has been raised by its signature, will endeavour to find some manner of conciliating those who have raised objections to the signature of the contract.

Dr. Rosen, in his desire to justify the action of the German Company, said he proposed to publish the letter of the "Conseil Sanitaire" to Hadj Mohammed Torres, and asked me if I had any objection. I replied that this did not depend on me, but that I thought that if any part of the negotiations were to be published the whole of it should, in fairness to ourselves, be made known, but I thought it very injudicious that our decisions should become public property.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13493] No. 78.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received April 27.)

(No. 115.)

Sir, *Tangier, April 20, 1907.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 97 of the 12th instant, I have the honour to transmit a translation of the reply to the French Minister to the note addressed by his Excellency to Sid Abelkrim-ben-Sliman.

This note reached me from a Moorish source before it reached the French Minister, and I shall not have an opportunity of asking M. Regnault for his opinion on it before the bag leaves; but it may be of interest to you to be in possession of it.

You will observe that in principle the Makhzen agrees to all the French demands, though it is certain that there will be much delay in carrying them out.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 78.

Reply of Sid Abelkrim-ben-Sliman to French Minister.

(Translation.)

AFTER we had replied to your Excellency about the greatly regretted incident of Dr. Mauchamp at Marakesh and informing you of the effect it caused on the Makhzen and others, and informing you of the Shereefian orders issued to the Deputy Sid Hadj Mohammed Torres and his colleagues to arrange a settlement of the demands conveyed through your Consul, M. Gaillard, and drawing attention to the necessity of your affording your assistance towards facilitating the matter and removing causes of irritation, the Deputy Sid Torres informed us that when they asked you to discuss an arrangement of the said demands you answered that your entering upon that matter depended upon the acceptance in principle by the Makhzen of the demands put

forward. His Shereefian Majesty has instructed me to write this letter to you to inform your Excellency that the Makhzen's intention by the words "arrange a settlement" was to bring the matter to a conclusion in a satisfactory manner and efface the vexations existing on both sides and make clear the sources of our future relations, not to give rise to controversy nor lengthy references, because friendly relations between neighbours require the due observance of rights; and as you suggest that the demands be accepted in principle before entering upon the discussion of a settlement, there is no harm in that, and I inform you in the name of His Shereefian Majesty that the demand for El Warzazi himself to be sent to Tangier is accepted, but that it is not hidden that he is confined to his bed, unable to move since some time as is known to every one, and if it were possible for him to be carried he would have gone. For this reason Shereefian orders were sent for his son, his deputy, who acts for him in exercising jurisdiction over the town, and those persons he has arrested in this case, to be sent. In any case he is dismissed from his post.

As regards your demands for facilities to be granted to your Consul, who is going to Marakesh to hold an investigation, a reply was sent to you on this point also that it was accepted and that orders had been sent to the officials.

As regards the demand for putting into force the reforms which have been ratified, the Makhzen was already resolved to put them into force in conformity with the Act of the Conference and is still firmly resolved to do so, and orders have been sent for the carrying into effect of some of them, amongst others an order has been sent to the Chief of the soldiers, Mohammed-el-Guebbas, to draw up the Police Regulations in conjunction with the officers appointed for the purpose in conformity with the Act of the Conference.

As regards the carrying into effect of the Agreements regarding the frontier, His Shereefian Majesty had and still has the intention to do so, and has given orders for the selection of a number of soldiers to be sent to occupy the posts appointed in that district, to be accompanied by a commander, who will go on behalf of His Shereefian Majesty to attend to the carrying into effect of the Agreements there, and I will inform you when the force starts and will give you the name of the official who will be sent for that purpose, so that the matter may be carried out in agreement with you. The necessities of the present time are not hidden from you or from your respected Government, nor are the preparations which it is necessary for the Makhzen to make to carry this into effect, but the Makhzen trusts that your exalted Government will give its assistance wherever necessary, as no other is more ready to do so for the Makhzen than your Government, and that has been their custom in their good relations with His Majesty's honoured ancestors. Thus these matters will finally be put into force in accordance with the agreements, please God! The demand for compensation for the family of the murdered man Mauchamp and for the indemnity for founding a hospital are accepted.

As regards the meting out of punishments and doing justice in the Charbonnier affair at Tangier and the case of wounding at Fez and that at Tekna, the Makhzen agrees to do justice and has arrested a number of persons in connection with each of those cases. And as regards the withdrawal of Moulai Edris-ben-Abderrahman from the district of Adrar, a Shereefian order has been issued for his return, and we have already answered you giving the reason of his going to that district and that there was no intention to cause trouble thereby or to annoy those who are under French jurisdiction in that part. And in any case the Makhzen only wishes to continue on good terms with the officials of your respected Government, and His Majesty therefore requests you to give your assistance in all that will remove misunderstandings, as the Makhzen had no previous knowledge of tribes holding French protection until you informed us of it in your letter which reached us recently. This will be attained by appointing a Mission on behalf of your exalted Government, and another on behalf of the Shereefian Government, to go and meet at the said place, so that those tribes who hold French protection may be known; and the Makhzen will abstain from all words with the people of those tribes, and tranquillity will thus be established between the two parties thenceforward by the power of God.

As regards the contraband of arms which it is alleged the Sheikh Sid Ma-el-Aineen carries on, the Makhzen has no knowledge thereof nor would it consent to his doing this, and Shereefian orders have been sent to the officials in that part to put a stop to the introduction of contraband; and even the arms allowed by the Makhzen for the soldiers it is preparing for Cape Juby and for the Governors whose districts are near that place, their quantity is small and only intended to protect that port and its vicinity.

As regards the settlement of the complaints sent in to the Makhzen and to the office of the Deputy at Tangier, the Makhzen agrees to that also; and His Shereefian Majesty trusts that your exalted Government will take due account of the conclusion of the matter of those demands and afford its assistance in those matters which will restore tranquillity to people's minds and thereby improve the relations between the two Governments and the two adjoining countries in the future, please God, as is known from your good intermediation.

A Shereefian order has been sent to the Deputy Sid Mohammed Torres in the sense of this letter, and we are confident that success will result from your good endeavours.

May you continue, &c.

End of Safar, 1325.

[12625] No. 79.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 64.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 27, 1907.*

HAVING given my careful consideration to your telegrams Nos. 32 and 33 of the 19th instant, on the subject of the projected tobacco monopoly in Morocco, I feel unable to accept the construction which you appear to concur with your Austro-Hungarian colleague in placing upon the concluding words of Article 73 of the Algeciras Act, dealing with the procedure to be adopted for the purpose of determining the amount of compensation payable to the tobacco merchants whose business will be extinguished by the creation of the monopoly.

Leaving aside, however, for the moment the question of interpretation, which I desire to discuss later, I may point out, as I have already previously done, that, according to the terms of the Article mentioned, it is clear that the question of appointing experts with the view of fixing the amount of compensation to be awarded is not supposed to arise unless and until attempts to arrive at an amicable arrangement have proved unsuccessful. It is perhaps possible that the Makhzen, in approaching the Austro-Hungarian and the Netherland Ministers, may have been prompted by a desire to consult some European experts merely for the preliminary purpose of clearing their own minds as to the terms to be offered in the first instance by way of amicable arrangement with the parties to be compensated. This, however, seems highly unlikely. The Makhzen have not apparently put forward any such view, and the attitude of the Austro-Hungarian Minister can leave no reasonable doubt that, in his opinion, the experts whose advice is solicited are expected to act as members of a jury giving a decision which is to be binding on the parties.

It seems desirable in these circumstances that you should draw the attention of the Moorish Government to the fact that the appointment of experts under the Act, and for the purposes contemplated by the Act, is altogether premature. The Makhzen are bound, in the first instance, to take steps to come to a direct understanding with the merchants, and the latter will be justified in declining to recognize the decision of any experts unless and until it shall have been found that direct negotiation between the parties has not led to agreement between them.

Proceeding now to discuss the interpretation of the concluding words of Article 73, already referred to, I note that you state in your telegram No. 32 that under the provisions of that Article the experts must be chosen according to the procedure laid down in Articles 116–118. I have difficulty in concurring in this view. Article 73 explicitly provides that the experts shall be "nominated jointly by the Makhzen and the Diplomatic Body," adding the proviso "who shall be guided by the provisions agreed upon in the matter of expropriations in the public interest." The word "who" in this sentence you evidently construe as referring to "the Makhzen and the Diplomatic Body," and hence you conclude that the provisions of Articles 116–118 must govern the method of appointing the experts. An examination of those provisions shows, however, that the method of appointment laid down in Article 117 cannot be reconciled at all with the provision in Article 73 that the experts shall be nominated jointly by the Makhzen and the Diplomatic Body.

Articles 116–118 contemplate, like Article 73, in the first instance, a situation arising from a state of disagreement between the Moorish authorities on the one hand and the owners who are to be expropriated on the other. They provide that in

such a contingency a jury of experts shall determine the amount of compensation to be awarded. But these experts are not, as stipulated in Article 73, to be nominated by the Makhzen and the Diplomatic Body, but are to be chosen one-half by the particular Department of the Moorish Government concerned, and the other half by the foreign owners themselves. The Diplomatic Body therefore have no voice in their selection at all. It is only in the event of (*a*) the experts disagreeing, and (*b*) the two Arbiters thereupon selected by the experts failing to agree as to the nomination of an Umpire, that the Diplomatic Body is to intervene for the purpose of making such nomination.

It cannot have been intended to lay down in Article 73 that the Makhzen and the Diplomatic Body, in proceeding to the joint nomination of experts, should be guided by provisions which altogether exclude both the Makhzen and the Diplomatic Body from the process of selecting or nominating such experts. The joint nomination contemplated in Article 73 can only mean that the choice of each one of the experts shall be approved both by the Makhzen and the Diplomatic Body (the latter, under Article 76, deciding by a majority of votes).

The seeming discrepancy between Article 73 and Articles 116 and 117 can only be overcome by taking the words (in Article 73) "who shall be guided . . . ." to refer not to "the Makhzen and the Diplomatic Body," but to the "experts" who have been jointly nominated by them.

The grammatical construction of the clause does not exclude this interpretation, though if the Article stood by itself the alternative interpretation would also be admissible. Seeing, however, that this alternative interpretation would bring the Article into obvious contradiction with itself, it seems quite clear that it must be discarded.

You will of course bear in mind that the English text is only a translation, and that binding force attaches only to the original French text as actually signed at Algeciras.

The French text shows, however, the same ambiguity. Indeed, whilst the English translation is at least grammatically correct—although open to different constructions—I am not certain that the French text is so, whilst in any case it is open to the same difference of construction.

Everything seems to point to the correctness of so interpreting the last sentence of Article 73 that it is the experts (jointly nominated by the Makhzen and the Diplomatic Body) who are to be guided by the provisions agreed upon in the matter of expropriation, and only in this way can the contradiction that would otherwise exist between Articles 73 and 117 be got over. The reference to the expropriation provisions would then mean that the experts, if they cannot form a majority decision, shall proceed to the appointment of Arbiters and an Umpire in the manner laid down in Article 117.

It is desirable, I think, that you should confer again with your colleagues, explaining to them the considerations set forth above, and informing them of the communication which, in accordance with my instructions, you will address to the Moorish Government to the effect that they are bound to endeavour to come to an amicable compromise with the parties entitled to compensation before any question can arise of the appointment of experts.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[13160] No. 80.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 66.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, April 29, 1907.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 107 of the 18th instant, inclosing the conditions upon which tenders are invited by the Moorish Government for the tobacco monopoly to be established under Articles 73 and 74 of the Act of Algeciras.

I am disposed to agree with your criticisms of certain of these conditions, but propose to consult with the President of the Board of Trade before expressing a definite opinion respecting these or other particulars. Meanwhile it would, I think, be desirable, as a preliminary, formally to raise objection to the assumption that the Moorish Government can proceed to adjudication in the matter without awaiting the issue of the Regulations as regards adjudications under Article 110 of the Algeciras Act.

I have accordingly to request that you will concert with your French and Spanish colleagues, and, if they agree, address a formal protest to the Makhzen, pointing out that no adjudication under the Algeciras Act can take place until the Regulations therein provided for have been drawn up with the assistance of the Diplomatic Body.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[13901] No. 81.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 30.)

(No. 117.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 23, 1907.

I YESTERDAY took the first opportunity that presented itself after Dr. Rosen's absence from Tangier to communicate to him the views of His Majesty's Government regarding the contract signed between Hadj Mohammed Torres and the German firm represented by M. Renschhausen for the construction of a main drain and a road following the beach. I pointed out to his Excellency that His Majesty's Government shared the views expressed by several of my colleagues at the meeting of the "Conseil Sanitaire" on the 2nd February, and said that if, as appeared, there had been a contravention of the Act of Algeciras, His Majesty's Government would be obliged to hold the Sultan responsible.

Dr. Rosen replied that he considered that if this was intended to be a message conveyed to his Government, it would more appropriately have been made in Berlin, but I told him that I thought it most advisable for a settlement of the question that he should at once be in possession of the views of His Majesty's Government.

Dr. Rosen replied that the supposition that this contract had been obtained through the support of the German Legation was incorrect. He had had no share in it whatever. I replied that it was well known that in this country no Concession was ever obtained unless the Makhzen was convinced that the applicant had the support of his Legation; but Dr. Rosen said that in the present instance this was quite unnecessary, as M. Renschhausen was well known and had had many dealings with the Makhzen. He maintained that the Makhzen was quite justified in signing the contract on the strength of the letters written by the "Conseil Sanitaire" to Hadj Mohammed Torres on the 5th May and 6th August, 1906, copies of which I have the honour to inclose. These had been approved unanimously by the foreign Representatives, who are the members of the "Conseil Sanitaire," and they authorized Hadj Mohammed Torres "de s'entendre avec M. Renschhausen." I argued that much turned on the interpretation of the word "s'entendre," that when we signed the letter which dealt with a matter that had been represented to us as urgent for the health of the town none of us had any idea of giving *carte blanche* for such extensive works as were now contemplated, and, moreover, that this view had been clearly put forward at the meeting of the 2nd February, at which we had asked for more detailed information from the "Commission d'Hygiène," which Commission had first raised the question, and this information was not yet forthcoming.

Under the circumstances it seemed clear that Article 106 of the Act of Algeciras had been contravened.

Dr. Rosen, without actually saying so, gave me to understand that the views he expressed were the views of his Government.

I communicated the above to my French colleague, who received the communication with some surprise, as on Thursday last (the 18th), Dr. Rosen had with his own hand written the statement which I annex herewith, and which implied that the "Conseil Sanitaire" had full power to reconsider the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 81.

President of Sanitary Council to Sid Torres.

(Traduction.)
(Après les compliments d'usage.) *Tanger, le* 5 *Mai*, 1906.

LE Conseil Sanitaire s'est préoccupé du fait que les travaux qui se font actuellement dans le port de Tanger empêcheront la sortie vers la pleine mer des immondices

venant des trois égouts de la ville et de ses alentours qui se déservent actuellement dans la mer, et que la houle venant du large refoulera vers la plage les ordures des dits égouts.

Aussi a-t-il jugé indispensable de prendre des mesures pour réserver au travers de ces travaux le passage d'un égout collecteur, formé par les trois égouts susdits, et qui sont—

Le premier, au milieu de la douane;
Le deuxième, près du phare;
Le troisième, à l'entrée de la plage.

Si les travaux du port se terminent sans que cette question soit résolue, de grosses difficultés se présenteront dans l'avenir, car, tôt ou tard, on se trouvera dans la nécessité de la reprendre. Alors non seulement les dépenses seraient beaucoup plus grandes, mais le fait d'ouvrir ensuite un passage au milieu des travaux terminés pourrait nuire à la solidité des dits travaux. Par conséquent, une détermination devrait être prise avant le mois de Juin, car à cette époque l'entrepreneur du port commencera les travaux de maçonnerie.

Je dois ajouter que la construction de cet égout obligera l'entrepreneur à faire un terre-plein pour sa solidité. Ce terre-plein suivra le mur de la tannerie et permettra en même temps, sans de grandes nouvelles dépenses, de faire une route de dégagement à la sortie de la douane que pourraient prendre toutes les marchandises encombrantes sans passer par la Rue des Siaghin; cette route serait mise en communication avec la route qui conduit de la plage au Grand Soko.

Un plan concernant cette affaire, que vous trouverez ci-joint, a été élaboré par un ingénieur Allemand du port en construction.

Je viens donc vous prier, au nom du Conseil Sanitaire, de vous entendre à ce sujet avec M. Renschhausen, concessionnaire des travaux du port, et de demander à Sa Majesté Chérifienne d'autoriser la dépense nécessaire pour les travaux de l'égout collecteur et de la nouvelle route.

Inclosure 2 in No. 81.

President of Sanitary Council to Sid Torres.

(Traduction.) *Tanger, le* 6 *Août*, 1906 (*le* 16 *Djoumada II*, 1324).
(Après les compliments d'usage.)

A LA date du 17 Rabih I, 1324, le Conseil Sanitaire vous a écrit au sujet de la construction d'un égout collecteur au travers du môle qui se construit actuellement, et vous l'avez informé le 5 Rabih II, 1324, que vous aviez communiqué l'objet de cette lettre ainsi que le plan qui l'accompagnait à Sa Majesté Chérifienne.

L'état des travaux du môle oblige le Conseil Sanitaire à vous demander une prompte réponse au sujet de l'égout collecteur dont il s'agit, et dont le plan se lie à l'ensemble des ouvrages actuellement en cours de construction dans le port.

Nous vous serions obligés de nous faire connaître, dans le plus bref délai, l'accueil réservé par Sa Majesté Chérifienne à la proposition du Conseil Sanitaire.

Inclosure 3 in No. 81.

Note by Dr. Rosen respecting Drains of Tangier.

APRÈS examen des détails de l'affaire de l'égout collecteur, il paraît que Torrès a pensé agir conformément à une lettre qui lui avait été adressée par le Conseil Sanitaire le 5 Mai, 1906, et dans laquelle il avait été, en effet, prié de s'entendre sur la construction de cet égout avec la maison Allemande Renschhausen, concessionnaire du môle de Tanger.

L'affaire est de la compétence du Conseil Sanitaire de Tanger, qui se compose des Chefs des Missions Diplomatiques, et qui a qualité pour décider de la question.

Il n'y a aucune raison de douter que cette question ne soit résolue dans le même esprit d'harmonie qui a présidé à l'élaboration des différents Règlements.

[13902] No. 82.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received April* 30.)

(No. 118.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 23, 1907.

AFTER my conversation with Dr. Rosen yesterday regarding the drainage works as reported in my despatch No. 114, I reverted again to the general question of the harbour works of Tangier and Laraiche, about which I have always found him very reticent, but on this occasion he was very categorical.

He wished me to understand very clearly that the German Government claimed the right now and in the future to carry out all harbour works in these two ports. He said that this Concession had been granted by the Sultan to the German Government before the visit of the German Emperor here. I expressed my surprise at this, seeing that Abdelkrim Ben Sliman had assured me at Fez in June and July 1905 that no final decision had been taken, and the information contained in my despatch No. 179 of the 9th July bore out these statements.

Dr. Rosen said that this Concession had been confirmed by the declaration made by the Moorish Delegates at Algeciras at the 18th meeting. I replied that the impression left had been that this referred only to the plans already submitted, to which he objected that this would not be so, as no plans regarding Laraiche had then been put forward at all, and it had only recently been ascertained that the minimum sum that could be expended with advantage at Laraiche would be 5,000,000 marks.

I communicated the substance of this conversation to M. Regnault, who expressed great surprise, adding that for his part he had never been able to obtain a clear expression of the views of the German Minister on the subject, but he considered it far from satisfactory and by no means as finally disposing of the question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[14141] No. 83.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 2.)

(No. 120.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 24, 1907.

MY German colleague came to see me to-day, and complained very bitterly of the manner in which the French Minister had given to the press information which he had communicated to M. Regnault in a confidential manner. This information referred especially to the sum of money which the Germans propose should be expended on the port at Laraiche, and which the French considered excessive in proportion to that which it was their intention should be devoted to the harbour works at Casablanca. I hinted to Dr. Rosen that a piece of information of this nature would be in the possession of many besides himself, and once it became a fact no great harm could come of its being generally known, to which he replied that he was only instancing one case of indiscretion on the part of M. Regnault, and that he had always imagined that confidential communications with colleagues should be treated with great reserve if any good were to come of such communications.

He also complained of the violence of the leading article which appeared in the "Temps" of the 18th instant, containing a severe attack on him, and Dr. Rosen added that M. Regnault's policy, which he not very aptly described as a "revolver politik," was intolerable.

I do not quite understand why Dr. Rosen came to me with this complaint against his colleague, but I told him that if his Government shared his view, it surely would be a simple matter to talk over the question in a friendly spirit in Paris or Berlin. He did not ask me to mention the matter to M. Regnault, nor did I offer to do so. Dr. Rosen appeared somewhat agitated, and said that he had spoken to the Russian Chargé d'Affaires on the matter. He apparently expected M. Regnault to use his influence with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to bring pressure to bear on the "Temps" towards greater moderation, and also to express his regrets to him at the language held. M. Regnault had previously said to me that he regretted that the "Temps" had been wanting in reserve in the article in question, but he was quite unable to bring any influence to bear on that paper.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[13160] No. 82*.

Foreign Office to Board of Trade.

Sir, *Foreign Office, April* 30, 1907.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Minister at Tangier inclosing the conditions upon which tenders are invited by the Moorish Government for the tobacco monopoly to be established under Articles 73 and 74 of the Algeciras Act.*

Sir E. Grey will be glad to be favoured with any observations which the Board of Trade may have to make on this communication. Meanwhile, Mr. Lowther has been instructed, in a despatch of which copy is also inclosed,† to protest against the assumption that the Moorish Government can proceed to adjudication in the matter without awaiting the issue of the Regulations as regards adjudications under Article 110 of the Act.

I am, &c.

(Signed) F. A. CAMPBELL.

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* No. 69 † No. 80.

[14142] No. 84.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May 2.*)

(No. 122.)

Sir, *Tangier, April 25, 1907.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 107 of the 18th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a document communicated by the Moorish Delegates to the Diplomatic Body as an Annex to the "Cahier des Charges" for the Tobacco Monopoly, containing amendments to certain Articles therein. These amendments do not modify the points to which I drew attention in my above-mentioned despatch, except as regarding the date of the adjudication of the contract, but introduce other provisions in favour of the Moorish Government.

There is to be an informal meeting on the 27th instant of some of the foreign Representatives with the Moorish Delegates, to consider the conditions of this "Cahier des Charges."

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 84.

Annex to "Cahier des Charges" respecting Tobacco Monopoly.

Amendments.

ARTICLE 1er. Il faut remplacer les mots : "1er Juin" par "1er Juillet."

Article 8. Il faut ajouter :—

"Les amendes provenant de la contrebande des tabacs seront réparties de la façon suivante: un tiers aux adjudicataires. Si la saisie a été opérée sans l'intervention d'un indicateur, la moitié des amendes sera attribuée aux agents saisissants et l'autre moitié aux adjudicataires."

Article 11. L'Article est modifié de la façon suivante :—

"Le Makhzen, d'accord avec les adjudicataires, fixeront tous les ans le prix minimum des tabacs de qualité inférieure."

Article 18. L'Article est modifié de la façon suivante :—

"Afin de contrôler l'exécution régulière des clauses du présent Cahier des Charges, le Makhzen nommera un Commissaire qui aura le droit de prendre connaissance de la gestion du Monopole. La rémunération du dit Commissaire, qui sera à la charge des adjudicataires, est fixée à 1,500 fr. par an. Toute communication du Makhzen aux adjudicataires, et réciproquement, sera faite par l'intermédiaire de ce Commissaire."

Article 21. L'Article est modifié ainsi :—

"Le paiement des bénifices et des avantages financiers se fera d'avance tous les trois mois. Il faut entendre par 'bénifices' et 'avantages financiers' une somme fixée par période quinquennale payable par trimestre d'avance, dont les soumissionnaires établiront le taux dans leurs soumissions.

"Les biens, meubles et immeubles, des adjudicataires répondent de l'exécution des obligations résultant par eux du présent Cahier des Charges."

Article 26. L'Article est modifié ainsi :—

"La Concession à son expiration pourra être renouvelée pour une nouvelle période par un accord à établir entre le Makhzen et les adjudicataires un an au moins avant la date de l'expiration. Les adjudicataires auront la préférence à égalité d'offres sur les autres. Si le Makhzen donne à d'autres l'exploitation du Monopole il obligera les nouveaux à acheter les immeubles et les machines à vapeur fixées au sol et aux murailles et appartenant aux présents adjudicataires qui auront servi à l'exploitation et dont les nouveaux pourront faire usage, ainsi que le tabac qui se

trouvera en la possession des présents adjudicataires, à un prix qui sera déterminé soit de gré à gré, soit suivant les Articles 116 et 117 de l'Acte Général d'Algésiras.

"Si le Makhzen lui-même veut exploiter le Monopole il sera libre d'acheter de la même manière les immeubles, machines, et tabacs des adjudicataires actuels. Les termes pour le paiement des prix seront fixés d'accord entre le Makhzen et les adjudicataires.

"Dans le cas où le Makhzen n'achèterait pas les objets susmentionnés, les adjudicataires en disposeront à leur gré; quant au tabac, ils seront tenus de le vendre pour l'exportation."

[14176] No. 85.

Board of Trade to Foreign Office.—(*Received May* 2.)

Sir, *Board of Trade, May* 1, 1907.

WITH reference to your letters of yesterday's date and of the 26th March last upon the subject of the proposed formation of an International Company to deal with the establishment of radiotelegraphy in Morocco, I am directed by the Board of Trade to request that you will be good enough to state to Secretary Sir Edward Grey that they concur in the proposal to address to the Eastern Telegraph Company a letter in the terms of the draft which was inclosed in the letter from your Department to the Board of the 11th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. W. PELHAM.

[14243] No. 86.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 2.)

(No. 37.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Tangier, May* 2, 1907.

THE "Cahier des Charges" (inclosure in my despatches Nos. 107 and 122) is being completely remodelled and date of adjudication postponed. It would be therefore advisable to take no action for the present on it.

[14884] No. 87.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 275.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 2, 1907.

M. CAMBON told me to-day that M. Rouvier had been to M. Pichon about a proposal that a French group should co-operate with Messrs. Bleichroeder, of Germany, in taking a Concession in Morocco for a tobacco monopoly.

M. Pichon had replied that there was no objection whatever, but the French Government would wish to see England and Spain participating. And M. Pichon wished to know whether I would say what English group the French financiers should communicate with, and suggested that possibly it should be Sir Ernest Cassel.

I said that, according to my recollections, there was some vested interest in tobacco in Morocco which would have to be compensated, and which affected some British subjects, but I would inquire into the matter, and give him a reply.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[13481] No. 88*.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 68.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May 2, 1907.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 102 of the 16th ultimo, inclosing the draft of a scheme prepared by the Diplomatic Body at Tangier for regulating the composition of the special Tribunal to be established in order to decide actions brought against the State Bank of Morocco.

I approve the proposed Regulations, which appear to meet the case in an equitable manner.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[13478] No. 88.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 67.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May 2, 1907.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 98 of the 14th ultimo, reporting an attempt by the German Minister at Tangier to come to an arrangement with his French colleague with a view to the water supply of the town being undertaken by a Franco-German Company.

There seems reason to apprehend that, if French and German interests combine in this manner, this and other similar undertakings may be practically withdrawn from the general international competition, for which special provision was made in the Algeciras Act.

You should therefore watch events from this point of view, and report if any such amicable arrangements between France and Germany appear to you to involve the sacrifice of British commercial interests.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[13482] No. 89.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 71.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May 2, 1907.*

IT appears to me from the contents of your despatch No. 113 of the 16th ultimo that there is considerable ground for the apprehension that the amounts to be expended on the German harbour works at Tangier and Laraiche, and on the French works at Casa Blanca and Saffi, which are not covered by the stipulations of the Algeciras Act, may to a large extent, if not entirely, consume the yield of the 2½ per cent. surtax on imports, which is in an important measure borne by British trade.

I think it therefore desirable that you should, if an opportunity offers, point this out to your French colleague, and suggest to him that it would hardly be fair or proper that these particular works, from which all chance of British competition is to be excluded, should be paid for from that general international source.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[14176] No. 90.

Foreign Office to Eastern Telegraph Company.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 3, 1907.*

WITH reference to your letter of the 11th March and to Sir E. Gorst's reply of the 23rd of that month, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to inform you that a proposal has recently been made to him that an international Company should be formed to deal with the question of the installation of a service of wireless telegraphy in Morocco, the capital of this Company to be subscribed in equal portions by France, Germany, Great Britain, and Spain.

2. The bases of the Agreement as drawn up by the French Company of Popp, after consultation with the Ministers of the four Powers at Tangier, which it is proposed that the subscribing parties should conclude, have been communicated to Sir E. Grey by the French Minister at this Court, and I am to inclose a copy of them for your information.* You will observe that the Company is to be formed within one month from the date of the signature of the Agreement, and that, when formed, it will apply to the Moorish Government for a Concession, which will require to be competed for and awarded in accordance with Articles 105–108 of the Algeciras Act, copy of which is also inclosed.

3. In compliance with the request of the French Government, His Majesty's Minister at Tangier has been authorized to join with his French, German, and Spanish

* No. 22.

colleagues in signing a joint Declaration to the effect that they have nothing to object to in the proposal for the formation of this international undertaking.

4. The moment has therefore now arrived when the question of British participation must be considered. Sir E. Grey, being anxious that this country should be adequately represented in so important a business, has directed me to inquire whether the Directors of the Eastern Telegraph Company would be prepared to take up the British share in the proposed Company on the understanding that an arrangement for the installation of wireless telegraphy at the Cape Spartel signalling station is come to with Lloyd's.

The claim of Lloyd's to erect a wireless installation at Cape Spartel dates back to 1903, and has always been recognized by His Majesty's Government, who have undertaken to support it at the proper moment. The French Government have also expressed the opinion that there will be no difficulty in Lloyd's coming to an arrangement with the French international Company in this matter. Any Agreement, therefore, that you may be prepared to enter into must contain a provision that the claims of Lloyd's will receive full consideration.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

[13484] No. 91.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 72.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May 6, 1907.*

IN your despatch No. 105 of the 17th ultimo you reported that the Moorish Government had caused their customs officials to detain certain apparatus on the ground of its "being destined for the installation of wireless telegraphy, which is prohibited in Morocco."

I was previously unaware that the establishment of wireless telegraphy was under any prohibition under the laws of Morocco, and I should be glad to learn what authority there is for this statement to the contrary.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[14951] No. 92.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 7.)

(No. 39.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Tangier, May 7, 1907.*

YOUR telegram No. 25.

All my information points to fact that story is grossly exaggerated. There have been no disturbances.

Despatches left for you to-day on subject.

[15070] No. 93.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 8.)

(No. 40.)
(Telegraphic) P. *Tangier, May 8, 1907.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 39 of yesterday.

I have just received news from Marakesh, stating that the Rahamna tribe have demanded expulsion of the French, giving them fifteen days in which to prepare. They appear resolved to take power into their own hands, and have insisted on the removal of the armed guards, while release of prisoners has been promised by Viceroy.

No direct news has reached M. Regnault, but I learn that no importance is attributed by German Consul at Dar-al-Baida to report.

[14942] No. 94.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 25.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Foreign Office, May 7, 1907.*

HAVE you any information respecting reported disturbances at Marakesh, Proclamation of Mulai Hafid as Sultan there, and danger to European residents?

[15194] No. 94.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 9.)

(No. 41.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May 9, 1907.*

TOBACCO monopoly.

In reply to your telegram No. 26, it is likely that, in addition to French, German, and Spanish firms, a Belgian as well as others will be anxious to obtain a share in the tobacco trade monopoly; there is no local British firm of sufficient standing to tender.

The arrangement proposed would, I consider, fail to facilitate the question of compensation, nine British manufacturers having an interest in the tobacco trade; in my opinion it would be advisable that each group should take its chance in the adjudication.

[14884] No. 95.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 26.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May 9, 1907.*

FRENCH Government have been sounded as to French participation with Bleichroeder, of Berlin, in concession for Moorish tobacco monopoly. They see no objection, but wish England and Spain to participate also, and ask me to designate English group. Do you consider British firms engaged in local tobacco trade of sufficient standing and otherwise qualified to justify my suggesting their taking up British share, and would this facilitate settlement of compensation question? Failing such arrangement, have you any suggestions to offer?

[14884] No. 96.

Foreign Office to Board of Trade.

Sir, *Foreign Office, May 10, 1907.*

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the impending creation of a tobacco monopoly in Morocco, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch addressed to His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris,* recording a conversation with the French Ambassador here, in the course of which his Excellency inquired Sir E. Grey's opinion as to what English group the French financiers should approach with a view of securing British participation in the Company which is to take over the Concession for the monopoly from the Moorish Government.

Sir E. Grey, as you will observe, informed M. Cambon that there were in his belief, certain vested interests which would require consideration, and undertook to inquire into the matter before returning any definite reply.

The telegram, of which a copy is inclosed,† has, in consequence, been addressed to His Majesty's Minister at Tangier, inquiring whether Mr. Lowther is able to make any suggestions.

It may prove to be impossible or undesirable for any of the British firms at present engaged in the tobacco trade in Morocco to be proposed by His Majesty's Government for participation in the Concession, and it will in that case become necessary to have recourse to some group of capitalists in this country. In order, therefore, that Sir E. Grey may be prepared for this contingency, I am to ask that the Board of Trade will be good enough to advise as to what course would best recommend itself in such circumstances.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

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* No. 87.

† No. 95.

[15308] No. 97.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 11.)

(No. 125.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 30, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 105 of the 17th instant, I have the honour to report that the wireless telegraphy materials, which had been detained by the customs, have at length, after repeated protests by the French Legation, been passed by the Moorish authorities here, and orders to the same effect have been sent to the ports. Upon inquiring into the circumstances, I have been informed by the French Legation that the materials in question have merely been passed subject to Mr. Popp's arranging the matter with the Makhzen at Fez, and that until this had been done the materials are in no way to be utilized. This presumably means until the matter is submitted to adjudication.

Mr. Popp has now returned here, but I understand that the formalities for the formation of the Company have not yet been completed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[15310] No. 98.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 11.)

(No. 127.)

Sir, *Tangier, April* 30, 1907.

THE Confidential print which has just reached here contains a letter addressed to you by Herr von Stumm, German Chargé d'Affaires, in which, on the subject of the proposed drainage works at Tangier, he communicates to you the information he states he had received from Berlin, according to which "the English and French Ministers at Tangier, after having discussed the question with Dr. Rosen, seem to realize that they had been mistaken as to the merits of the case, and to regret the attitude taken up in the matter by leading English and French newspapers."

As far as I am concerned, I would desire to state in the most emphatic form that nothing I said to Dr. Rosen could possibly bear the interpretation placed upon it by the German Foreign Office—namely, that I had been mistaken in my view of the case—and as reported in my telegram No. 36 of the 24th ultimo, I confined myself to stating that I thought it advisable that the matter should be settled diplomatically rather than that it should be discussed by the newspapers, which were not fully supplied with all the correspondence.

My French colleague tells me that, as regards himself, the conclusions of the German Foreign Office are quite incorrect.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[15311] No. 99.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 11.)

(No. 128.)

Sir, *Tangier, May* 4, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a circular addressed by the Moorish Commissioner to the Diplomatic Representatives here, informing us that the installation of telegraphy with or without wires at the coast ports, and in the interior of Morocco, is a privilege of the Moorish Government; and that none but the Moorish Government can install it for its own account, or offer it to tender.

As a general rule these circulars are answered in identic terms by the Diplomatic Representatives after discussion; but at a meeting held yesterday it soon became apparent that there was considerable divergence of views as to the reply to be sent, and the French Minister replied that he would be compelled to make a reserve in favour of existing interests, alluding to the Popp wireless telegraphy scheme, which formed the subject of my despatches Nos. 79 and 87 of the 29th March and 4th April last respectively. The French Minister would not admit that a private business, established for the purpose of sending wireless messages, would be considered a public

service until it was acquired by the State and compensation given; and maintained that the Popp establishments, although admittedly not working, were entitled to compensation as much as were the tobacco manufacturers on the establishment of the tobacco monopoly; and M. Regnault quoted various countries where wireless telegraphy existed, not as a monopoly, but as a private enterprise. His attention was called to the fact that the enterprise was only initiated after the signature of the Act of Algeciras, and that the tobacco manufacturers had vested rights of some years standing. If Mr. Popp had asked a privilege of the Makhzen, matters would, in M. Regnault's opinion, be different, but there was nothing to prevent his carrying on his service unless compensated.

The Agreement signed between Germany, France, Spain, and ourselves, for the establishment of a Joint Company with the object of instituting a wireless telegraphy service was mentioned, but the Representatives of the Powers not interested declared that they would not in any way consider this arrangement, which was not officially known to them.

Under the circumstances, I venture to request your instructions as to the reply you would wish me to send to Hadj Mohammed Torres, or whether you would wish me to leave the note without reply.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 99.

Circular addressed by the Moorish Commissioner to the Diplomatic Representatives at Tangier.

(After compliments.) 16 *Rabia*, 1325 (*April* 29, 1907).

YOUR Excellency is not unaware that the installation of telegraphs, with or without wires, at the coast ports, and in the interior of Morocco, is a privilege of the Moorish Government, and none but it can install it; and the Makhzen is about to take the necessary steps to install it for its own account, or offer it to tender; and you will be notified of its rightly directed decision of which I inform you.

May you, &c.
(Signed) MOHAMMED-BEN-EL-ARBI TORRES.

[15317] No. 100.

Sir E. Egerton to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 11.)

(No. 84.)

Sir, *Rome, May* 7, 1907.

FROM what Signor Tittoni told me to-day, he considers the incident created by the appointment of the engineer in Morocco, which has given rise to such keen discussion between him and the French Ambassador, as virtually settled by the adoption of the course which he recommended at Berlin, viz., unanimous support to the French candidate.

I gather, from M. Barrère's conversation, that the refusal of the Italian Foreign Minister to sanction the Italian Representative voting contrary to his German colleague in Morocco is still resented.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

[15301] No. 101.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 11.)

(No. 244.)
Sir,

Paris, May 10, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a communiqué, which was published in the "Temps" of to-day's date, in regard to the negotiations between the French Government and the Maghzen, relative to the compensation demanded for the murder of Dr. Mauchamp and to other matters for which satisfaction is sought from the Moorish Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

Inclosure in No. 101.

Extract from the "Temps" of May 10, 1907.

LA réponse du Makhzen aux réclamations de la France, qui a provoqué récemment l'envoi de nouvelles instructions à notre Ministre à Tanger, marquait le désir de nous donner satisfaction, quoique d'une manière encore incomplète. Elle indiquait que l'occupation d'Oujda avait impressionné le Sultan, car elle accordait notamment la destitution du Gouverneur de Marakech, l'acceptation de l'enquête Consulaire sur le meurtre du Dr. Mauchamp, le principe de la punition des coupables, et l'octroi des indemnités qui seraient jugées nécessaires par la France.

Après examen de cette réponse, le Gouvernement de la République a invité M. Regnault à prendre acte des satisfactions déjà promises, mais à déclarer qu'aucune négociation ne pourrait s'engager avant que toutes ses demandes sans exception aient été acceptées. La France continue ainsi à réclamer le châtiment effectif de tous les coupables des attentats ou assassinats commis contre ses ressortissants et l'organisation de la police sur la frontière Marocaine et dans les ports. Elle accepte l'envoi annoncé par le Sultan d'un fonctionnaire Marocain à Oujda, mais à la condition que des pouvoirs suffisants seront donnés à ce fonctionnaire pour appliquer réellement les Accords de 1901–1902, qui ne sauraient être remis en discussion.

En ce qui touche nos griefs concernant la Mauritanie, énumérés à la Chambre par M. Pichon le 26 Mars dernier, le Makhzen les a récemment aggravés par un envoi d'armes à Ma-el-Aïnin. Le Sultan ne nous a proposé comme satisfaction que le rappel de Moulaï Idriss et la nomination d'une commission chargée de délimiter les tribus de Mauritanie.

Le Gouvernement de la République a repoussé cette prétention, qui est exorbitante, car il ne peut admettre que le Makhzen fasse effectuer une délimitation sur les confins de la Mauritanie, soit à un millier de kilomètres du Cap Juby, qui est son dernier poste au sud.

Cette réponse, envoyée la semaine dernière, a dû arriver à Fez vers le 6 de ce mois.

[15428] No. 102.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 11.)

(No. 42.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Tangier, May 11, 1907.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 40 of the 8th instant.

The aggressive attitude of tribes at Marakesh has rendered the state of affairs there more serious. Viceroy says he cannot assist Europeans.

According to last reports received, the French were to leave in a day or two, the British Consular Agent with missionaries on the 9th. The Germans had not yet decided what course they would follow.

[15494] No. 103.

Sir F. Lascelles to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 13.)

(No. 191.)
Sir,

Berlin, May 6, 1907.

A REPORT has appeared in the French press to the effect that the murder of Dr. Mauchamp, which occurred some time ago at Morocco city, was instigated by a certain Dr. Holtzmann, a resident in Morocco, who was presumed to be a German. This report subsequently received a contradiction from French sources.

From a paragraph which has recently appeared in the "Kölnische Zeitung," it seems that Dr. Holtzmann is neither a German subject nor under German protection, but was born in Palestine, and is therefore a Turkish subject. The fact that he bears a German name, has studied in Germany, and therefore speaks the language fluently, is presumed to be the cause of the error.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANK C. LASCELLES.

[15650] No. 104.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 13.)

(No. 130.)
Sir,

Tangier, May 7, 1907.

RATHER disquieting rumours have been current here for the last few days, which were also credited in Moorish circles, that the tribes in the neighbourhood of Marakesh had declared that they would no longer acknowledge Mulai Abdul Aziz as Sultan; that they demanded the retention of the present Governor of Marakesh as Governor, and would not accept any official appointed by the Sultan to approach the city.

From the two despatches from Mr. Madden inclosed herewith, it would, however, appear that although there is some unrest there does not appear to be any reason to suppose that Mulai Hafid is disloyal to the Sultan, or is encouraging the tribes to proclaim him as Sovereign.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 104.

Consul Madden to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 67.)
Sir,

Dar-al-Baïda, May 4, 1907.

THE situation at Morocco city remains quiet, although there seems considerable discussion going on among the tribes.

The Consular Agent states it is certain that some of the Rahamna tribe have written to the Viceroy demanding the release of the prisoners, ten in number, who are to be sent to Fez, and are at present detained in the Kasbah prison, and saying, also, that they will oppose the entry into Morocco city of a new Governor with soldiers.

Mulai Hafid had replied that he was unable to release the prisoners until an answer is received from the Sultan, to whom he had written.

The Rahamna tribe being without a leader, however, it was not anticipated that trouble would occur.

Mr. Lennox adds that there are a number of rumours and stories current, which are not to be relied on.

During the seventh day of the Feast, the 30th April, the Europeans, including the British, decided to remain in their houses in order to avoid giving the slightest cause for excitement among the rabble from the country districts. The Governor of the city had taken extraordinary precautions, placing guards in mufti concealed in various parts of the town, all the gates and walls being strongly held by soldiers.

Writing on the 1st May, Mr. Lennox informs me that there was no reason to apprehend any disturbance, although the tribes were attending the "Moossum," or religious fair, in very large numbers. The Governor and his son were maintaining in force the measures of precaution already stated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. MADDEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 104.

Consul Madden to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 68.)
Sir, *Dar-al-Baïda, May* 5, 1907.

WITH reference to my immediately preceding despatch, I have the honour to report that the Consular Agent at Morocco city informs me under date the 2nd instant, that the religious fair had passed off without the slightest disturbance of the peace.

It appears that the Rahamna tribesmen helped in every way they could to prevent anything untoward happening, which, considering the very large assemblage of people and the rumours current, is a very satisfactory result.

The authorities at Morocco city prevented women from joining the crowd, which is said to have been a very useful precaution.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. MADDEN.

[15629] No. 105.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 13.)

(No. 243. Confidential.)
Sir, *Paris, May* 10, 1907.

M. PICHON told me this morning that he had received a report from Berlin that Baron d'Aerenthal, on his recent visit to that capital, had urged on the German Government a change of policy in regard to Morocco, and had advised that Germany should be conciliatory towards France in questions affecting Morocco so as to detach her from England. M. Pichon said that he could not answer for the truth of the report, but the endeavour to detach France from England, if made, would fail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

[15194] No. 106.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 27.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, May* 13, 1907.

YOUR telegram No. 41 [Tobacco monopoly].

I do not quite follow your argument that British interests would be best served by a separate application by each group desirous of competing for a share of the monopoly.

Would not a British applicant of no particular standing find himself at a disadvantage in competing with a Franco-German-Spanish Syndicate? Participation of a British group in such a Syndicate could, I think, hardly fail to be of assistance to the interests of British manufacturers.

If no local British firm is of sufficient standing to participate, recourse could be had to some group of capitalists in this country.

Please explain your views fully by post.

[16174] No. 107.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 18.)

(No. 132.)
Sir, *Tangier, May* 7, 1907.

AS instructed in your despatch No. 49 of the 28th March, I have the honour to transmit herewith a Report upon the present state of prisons in Morocco which has been drawn up by Mr. Rattigan.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 107.

Report on the Prisons in Morocco.

THE conditions of the prisons in Morocco have during the last few years improved generally, though there is but little real change since the Report drawn up by this Legation in 1905. It is natural that the farther removed from European influence a prison may be, the worse its condition will inevitably become, and, in examining this question, the fact must not be lost sight of that the prisoners when free are not accustomed to much cleanliness or comfort. In most instances the number of prisoners has considerably decreased since a few years ago, when hundreds of political offenders from the rebel tribes were confined under revolting conditions of disease, starvation, and filth.

The worst feature of the prisons, more especially of those that are more remote from European influence, is the system of bribes and extortion under which a prisoner, whose release has even been ordered, cannot obtain his freedom until he has satisfied the cupidity of the Governors and warders. None of the Governors appears to be above extorting a bribe of half-a-dollar from the poorer class of prisoner, while the warder must receive a quarter of a dollar before the unfortunate prisoner can obtain his release. In the case of the better class these bribes are of course on a proportionately higher scale. In some of the smaller towns, as, for example, at Saffi, this system of extortion has become a fine art. Many unfortunate individuals are imprisoned, not for any crime, but solely with a view to extortion, or because they happen to be rivals of the Sheikhs at present in authority. Many of the prisoners are required to pay a daily fee to the gaolers, and failing to pay are loaded with chains. About a month ago the Oomana at Saffi instituted an inquiry into the various causes of imprisonment among the prisoners there, but this inquiry naturally led to nothing, as the wretched individuals were prevented from telling their stories by fear of the Kaïds who had imprisoned them and who are still in authority. However, it is certainly the case that, except for this evil of extortion which is still everywhere prevalent, the general conditions in regard to sanitary arrangements and treatment of prisoners has considerably improved of recent years.

Tangier.

There are at Tangier two prisons, called the large and the small. In the former there are at the present moment 106 prisoners, for whom forty skins of water (there are approximately 100 pints to a skin) are provided daily, as also two loaves of bread per man. The condition of these prisons is in general as satisfactory as can be expected. They are cleaned daily, and the sanitary arrangements are not very bad. Mats are provided upon which the prisoners may sleep, though in a few instances these have not yet been supplied. There are seventy prisoners confined in the small prison, who also receive two loaves each per day, and for whom fifteen skins of water are provided, extra water being supplied for washing and cleaning. The prison is cleaned every morning. The Government rations are only supplied to those prisoners who are not provided for by their own relations.

Dar-al-Baida.

The conditions in this prison seem on the whole better than in 1905, the date of the last Report, owing to the fact that there are now fewer prisoners. There are at

the present moment sixty-three, of whom only five are in chains, compared with some 300 who were confined there formerly. Thirty loaves are provided daily for those prisoners whose relatives bring them no food. They have the use of an open patio and three rooms, and there are two wells.

Mogador.

At Mogador the conditions have in the same way improved generally, though the system of extortion is prevalent to a considerable extent.

Mazagan and Saffi.

No change is reported to have taken place at Mazagan during the last two years, but at Saffi, though the prison has recently been enlarged, the present condition is very far from satisfactory, a short allowance of food and general ill-treatment being the lot of the unfortunate prisoners confined there.

Marakesh.

Here the state of things is still very bad. The prisoners are overcrowded and confined in unsanitary surroundings, while the existence of many of them seems to have been entirely forgotten, and they eke out a miserable existence on a small loaf provided by the Maghzen or what they can beg from their more fortunate fellow-prisoners. Certain alleviations of their condition can be obtained by the prisoners upon payment of bribes to the gaolers, who here, as elsewhere, reap a rich harvest of blackmail.

It is unfortunately only too probable that the condition of the majority of prisons in the interior is in no way more satisfactory, but the root of the evil is so deep-seated that it may be doubted whether anything can be done to alleviate the sufferings of the unfortunate prisoners until the whole system of government in Morocco undergoes a radical change, and more enlightened ideas of civilization and humanity have made themselves felt.

[15807] No. 108.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 14.)

(No. 134.)

Tangier, May 8, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my telegram of yesterday, I have the honour to state that I had received no alarming reports from Mr. Lennox regarding the condition of the town and the danger to foreigners there until this afternoon I received the inclosed extract from a letter addressed by that official to Vice-Consul Spinney at Mazagan on the 4th instant, and communicated to me by Mr. Madden.

Mr. Madden dispatched this communication to me in great haste, as the mail was leaving, and merely added that the Rahamna seemed determined to demonstrate against Morocco City, but they had done this before, and he considered it unlikely that they would get inside the town, though there might be danger from within, as the movement is likely to be a popular one.

The movement is apparently an anti-French one, and Mulai Hafid, even if willing to control the Rahamna, has probably not sufficient forces at his command to do so.

The German Consul at Dar-al-Baida, of whom Mr. Madden inquired whether he had had any recent news, stated on the 7th that the last news was reassuring, and he did not give much importance to the reports of the state of affairs at Marakesh, thinking that the harvest would occupy the tribesmen and keep them quiet.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 108.

Mr. Lennox to Vice-Consul Spinney.

(Extract.)

Marakesh, May 4, 1907.

THINGS are getting very bad here, I fear. It appears that the authorities must yield to the demands of Rahamna, who seem now to be fully represented, and determined to take the reins into their hands. They have had the armed guards removed from the streets, and Muley-el-Hafid has promised to give them the prisoners, and to [? grant] them their request for the Jews, and he has to give his answer to-day about the expulsion of the French. They have even demanded the removal of all taxes, and, in fact, they wish to rule the roast. They are clamouring for their reply, so as to go out to meet their brethren in the meetings they have arranged in the country. I think I had better send off the women and children next week. I don't suppose their demand for the French will be refused, although I am told they consent to give them fifteen days to prepare, and will then escort them to the coast. If they get all they ask for to-day, they will wish more to-morrow, and when will it end? The Sultan must leave Fez at once, or there will be a big revolution in the south.

[15856] No. 109.

Director of Military Operations to Foreign Office.—(*Received May* 14.)

THE Director of Military Operations presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and transmits, for the information of Sir E. Grey, two copies of documents on the subject of Syrian and Arabian affairs.

War Office, May 13, 1907.

Inclosure in No. 109.

Major Maunsell to Colonel Count Gleichen.

(Extract.)

Tripoli, April 24, 1907.

I HEARD, on leaving Damascus, that Ibn Rashid was trying hard to obtain some alliance or protection that would give him a chance against Ibn Saoud. He tried to get the Druzes, but they would have none of the idea, as obviously they could not do much outside their own district of Jebel Druz.

He also has the idea of obtaining British protection, and the Consul told me he wished to send a letter to the King; but nothing has come of it yet.

I went with the Consular dragoman (as a tourist wanting to go to Hail) to see an Arab merchant, Bassam, who is in touch with that country, and found him a very strong partisan of Ibn Rashid. He thought in some way I might get British protection for him. He told me a great deal about routes and the country, and confirmed the news that Ibn Saoud was now in Kassim collecting his forces for another move.

I saw Emir Ali, son of the great Abdul Kader, of Algeria, who knows a good deal about this country, and is closely in touch with Izzet Pasha, the Sultan's Chamberlain, who is a native of Damascus, and the principal Director of the Hedjaz Railway. Curiously enough, I found there an officer of the Moroccan army (rank of major), who had just arrived, it is said, to see if he could get any assistance from Emir Ali, which is very doubtful.

[15194] No. 110.

Foreign Office to Board of Trade.

Foreign Office, May 14, 1907.

Sir,

IN continuation of my letter of the 10th instant, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you, to be laid before the Board of Trade, copies of further

telegraphic correspondence which has passed between this Office and His Majesty's Minister at Tangier with regard to the creation of a tobacco monopoly in Morocco.*

Sir E. Grey would be glad to receive an expression of the views of the Board with regard to the best means of securing effective British participation in this concern.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

[15894] No. 111.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 15.)

(No. 135. Confidential.)

Sir, *Tangier, May* 9, 1907.

THE Makhzen have latterly been showing some little energy in order to bring about the capture and punishment of the brigand Valiente, an energy prompted not so much by a desire to fulfil their promises towards the British Government as by a wish to remove Valiente from an antimony mine which he is working for his own benefit in the neighbourhood of Ceuta.

On the death recently of the Governor of Angera his son was appointed. This nomination seemed to unite as far as possible the different interests of the Angera tribe, and was understood to be antagonistic to those of Valiente. But the Spanish Government intimated to the Makhzen that the appointment would not be agreeable to them, an opposition easily explained by the fact that the Governor of Ceuta has found it more advantageous for the government of that town to endeavour to be on good terms with Valiente, as he is able to control the food supply of the town and entirely check it if he wishes.

The Spanish Minister approached me a few days ago with a view to ascertain whether His Majesty's Government still attached importance to and insisted on the punishment of Valiente, explaining the difficulties that were caused to Ceuta if the relations of the Spanish authorities with Valiente were not outwardly friendly. I replied that I had no reason to believe that His Majesty's Government intended to withdraw their demand for the punishment of this person, although I had taken no official steps in the matter for some time, and that, until instructed to do so, I could not alter my attitude. The man had committed a grave offence for which he remained entirely unpunished, and, if the Spanish Government wished to intercede on his behalf, I did not think that it was through me that it should be done. M. Llaberia hinted that all the trouble caused by Valiente was due to the fact that the Spanish Government had not been allowed to pursue and punish him in October 1905 when the British officers captured by him were in his hands. I did not argue this point with him, but I said it would be creating a dangerous precedent if a foreign Government admitted that Valiente could go free because he was troublesome to the neighbours of Morocco.

M. Llaberia said that he was speaking to me in confidence, and I do not know whether he had been instructed to do so.

I have sent a copy of this despatch to Madrid.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16077] No. 112.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 16.)

(No. 44.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May* 16, 1907.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 40 of the 8th instant with regard to the situation at Marakesh, it is reported from Saffi that British Consular Agent and British residents arrived there without incident on the 11th from Marakesh.

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* Nos. 94 and 105.

[15391] No. 113.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 296.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, May* 17, 1907.

The French Ambassador called at this Office on the 9th instant, and stated that it had come to the knowledge of the French Government that smuggling of arms was being extensively carried on at Cape Juby. The French Government were also aware that the Moorish Government had repeatedly dispatched arms to that place consigned to the Sheikh Ma-el-Aineen and to the tribes that were acting in opposition to France in Mauretania.

With the object of putting an end to this contraband traffic the French Government had dispatched the cruiser "Lalande" to Cape Juby, with instructions to lie off that place, to keep watch over any landing of arms under a foreign flag, and to prevent any arms from being put on shore under the Moorish flag. The cruiser was also to ascertain whether any war material had been disembarked, and, if so, to seize it. These measures, however, did not admit of any idea of "occupation," within the proper meaning of that word.

The French Government had come to an agreement with the Spanish Government for the purpose of exercising this supervision. The latter had ordered the cruiser "Alvaro Basan" to steam to Cape Juby and to deny to Spanish boats all access to that place.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[16176] No. 114.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 18.)

(No. 137.)

Sir, *Tangier, May* 9, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a note addressed to the foreign Representatives by Sid Mohammed Torres on the subject of "cabotage" between Moroccan ports, as also of the reply to the same sent by the doyen, Count Martens Ferrão, on behalf of the Diplomatic Body.

It will be observed that the Moorish Government announce their intention of levying a 1 per cent. statistical and weighing due, thus disregarding Article 65 of the Algeciras Act, under which the assistance of the Corps Diplomatique is to be invoked in establishing this due, and which provides that the amount must first be the subject of discussion by the foreign Representatives, 1 per cent. being the maximum.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 114.

Sid Mohammed Torres to Foreign Representatives.

(After compliments.)

I HAVE to inform you that His Shereefian Majesty has issued Shereefian orders to the Oomana at the Moorish ports to allow the "cabotage" of seeds, grains, vegetables, eggs, fruit (dried and green), birds, male oxen and sheep, and other merchandize in His Majesty's dominions, free of duty, but subject to payment of a charge of 1 per cent. *ad valorem* statistical and weighing due specified in Article 65 of the Act of the Conference of Algeciras, with due observance of the Regulations and rights specified in Articles 93 and 94 of the said Act. No persons will be permitted to ship horses, mules, donkeys, and camels, except on a special order from His Shereefian Majesty, of which I inform you in order that you may notify those under your jurisdiction for their guidance.

May you, &c.
(Signed) MOHAMMED-BEN-EL-ARBI TORRES.

16*th of Rabia* 1, 1325 (*April* 29, 1907).

Inclosure 2 in No. 114.

Count Martens Ferrão to Sid Mohammed Torres.

(Compliments d'usage.)

J'AI bien reçu la lettre que votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser à la date du 16 Rabih 1er, 1325, en réponse à la lettre que j'avais adressé le 6 Mars, 1907, à son Excellence Abdul Krim-ben-Sliman au sujet de l'application de plusieurs Articles de l'Acte d'Algésiras, parmi lesquels figure la liberté de cabotage inscrite dans le dit Acte d'Algésiras.

Le Corps Diplomatique, auquel j'ai donné connaissance de la lettre de votre Excellence, a vu avec regret que vous ne répondiez à ma lettre qu'en ce qui concerne le cabotage; il espère que vous lui donnerez, d'ici un très bref délai, une réponse à ses autres demandes de façon à mettre à exécution des réformes formellement acceptées par Sa Majesté Chérifienne.

J'ai également le regret de vous faire savoir que votre lettre précitée du 16 Rabih 1er, 1325, n'a pas donné satisfaction à mes honorables collègues. Le Makhzen se déclare disposé à établir sur les marchandises transportées par cabotage un droit de statistique et de pesage de 1 pour cent *ad valorem*, sans tenir compte de l'Article 65 de l'Acte d'Algésiras, qui exige pour l'établissement de ce droit l'assistance du Corps Diplomatique. Il appartient au Corps Diplomatique d'en discuter le montant, le chiffre de 1 pour cent étant un maximum. D'autre part, l'Acte d'Algésiras, en rappellant au Makhzen son engagement d'autoriser le cabotage entre les ports Marocains (Article 69) conformément aux décisions antérieures de Sa Majesté Chérifienne, et notamment à la décision du 28 Septembre, 1901, a prévu que cette matière ferait objet de Règlements spéciaux. Le Corps Diplomatique constate que ces Règlements ne lui ont pas été soumis. Il estime en conséquence qu'aussi longtemps que ces Règlements n'auront pas été élaborés avec son assistance, le droit indiqué dans la lettre du 29 Avril ne saurait être reconnu.

Enfin, il n'y a pas concordance entre le texte de la lettre précitée et l'Article 69. Cet Article parle des animaux de toute espèce, et non des mâles des animaux. Il y aurait donc lieu de rectifier la décision Chérifienne en vue de ne pas modifier les dispositions arrêtées par l'Acte d'Algésiras.

Le Corps Diplomatique m'a chargé de porter ce qui précède à la connaissance de votre Excellence, en vous priant de le signaler à Sa Majesté Chérifienne. Il se déclare prêt à entrer en négociations avec les Représentants que Sa Majesté Chérifienne autorisera à cet effet, pour élaborer avec eux les Règlements dont l'institution est prévue dans le paragraphe (*c*) de l'Article 65 de l'Acte Général de la Conférence d'Algésiras.

Il espère enfin que les instructions tendant du droit de 1 pour cent seront retirées sans retard et que le remboursement des sommes versées de ce chef par les ressortissants étrangers sera ordonné aux Oumana des divers ports.

[16177] No. 115.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 18.)

(No. 138.)

Tangier, May 9, 1907.

Sir,

I TOOK an early opportunity of speaking to my French colleague on the question which formed the subject of your despatch No. 71 of the 2nd instant, namely, as to the sources from which the payment for the contemplated German and French harbour works at Tangier and Laraiche and Casablanca and Saffi not covered by the stipulation of the Algeciras Act would be taken. M. Regnault is distinctly of opinion that there can be no claim on the 2½ per cent. surtax on imports for these works.

He considers that they must be paid for out of the general resources of the country, and that they will be included in the legitimate liabilities of the country when the liquidation takes place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16178] No. 116.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 18.)

(No. 139.)

Tangier, May 10, 1907.

Sir,

INQUIRIES have occasionally been addressed to this Legation by British subjects desirous of applying for mining Concessions, which under Article 112 of the Algeciras Act may be granted on conditions to be laid down by a Shereefian Firman, and the applicants have been informed that the Firman has not yet been published.

As, however, it is possible that the Firman may be issued and Concessions granted without proper opportunity being afforded to British subjects to put in their applications, I have thought it advisable to acquaint the Makhzen with the fact that there are British subjects who desire to apply for such Concessions, and to request that no grants be made without allowing them an opportunity of putting in their applications.

I beg leave to inclose herewith translation of the letter I have addressed to Sid-ben-Sliman on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 116.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sid-ben-Sliman.

Tangier, May 10, 1907.

Sir,

I DESIRE to inform your Excellency that several inquiries have been addressed to this Legation by British subjects desirous of applying for Concessions for the working of mines in this country, and I have told them that under Article 112 of the Algeciras Act no such Concessions can be granted until the Sultan shall have published a Firman on the subject.

I request your Excellency to take note of the fact that British subjects desire to apply for Concessions for working any mines, ores, or quarries which the Sultan may decide to grant, in order that no such grant may be made without due notice being previously given, and the Firman published so as to afford British subjects full opportunity to put in their applications.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16179] No. 117.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 18.)

(No. 140.)

Tangier, May 15, 1907.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your despatch No. 64 of the 27th ultimo, on the subject of the proposed tobacco monopoly in Morocco, and of the interpretation of Article 73 of the Act of Algeciras with regard to the procedure to be adopted for the purpose of determining the amount of compensation payable to the tobacco merchants whose business will be extinguished by the creation of the monopoly.

I had repeatedly since this question had been under discussion asked the Moorish Delegates whether they had attempted, as is clearly laid down in Article 73, to arrive at an amicable understanding with the merchants regarding the compensation to be paid, and they assured me that they had done so and that they had found their demands so exorbitant that all negotiations were impossible. On inquiring individually from each of the British merchants concerned, I found that the Moorish Delegates had confined themselves to asking the merchants what sum they proposed to claim and negotiations had gone no further. Consequently I addressed on the 4th instant a note to the Moorish Government pointing out that it was premature to consider the appointment of experts until proper steps had been taken to arrive at an amicable

arrangement, and on the 8th instant another, stating that those steps had not been taken.

Copies of these notes are inclosed herewith.

It is not the case that the Makhzen, in approaching the Austro-Hungarian and Netherlands Ministers with regard to the selection of experts, were prompted by a desire to consult them with a view to arrive at a fair price that could be offered by the Makhzen, but the latter now appears to be disposed to utilize them to this end.

I also, on the receipt of your despatch, placed in the hands of all my colleagues a short Memorandum explaining the interpretation suggested by you as being the correct one regarding Articles 73, 116, 117 and 118. Having reconsidered the question, they all agreed that the Articles were contradictory of each other, due probably to careless drafting, the Austro-Hungarian, Netherlands, and German Ministers, however, dissenting from the view taken by you of the meaning of these Articles.

It is unnecessary for me to trouble you with the different views put forward. The opinion given me unofficially by my Dutch colleague in the inclosed Memorandum is the most clearly put and includes the others. My Austro-Hungarian colleague lays special stress on the point that Article 73 does not name the number of experts, but refers directly to the "provisions agreed upon in the matter of expropriation in the public interest" which, in his opinion, means that we must be entirely guided by Articles 116 and 117.

There appears, however, to be a general desire to arrive at an understanding which may reconcile the various points of view, and endeavours are now being made to agree upon a formula for the interpretation of these Articles, introducing a phrase which would amount to a declaration that the Austro-Hungarian and Netherlands Governments, in agreeing to the request of the Makhzen for the appointment of experts, had not gone beyond the stipulations of the Act of Algeciras. This declaration, which it is proposed should be inserted in the *procès-verbal* of one of the plenary meetings, would also make a reference to Article 73, and I trust it may be found possible to reconcile all views in this affirmation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 117.

Mr. G. Lowther to Hadj Mohammed Torres.

(After compliments.) *Tangier, May* 4, 1907 (*Rabia I*, 1325).

UNDER Article 73 of the General Act of Algeciras, which deals with the establishment of the tobacco monopoly, the Signatories of the Act reserved the right of their nationals to due compensation for any losses which this monopoly might inflict on such of them as carry on a tobacco business under the present system, and further lays down the procedure in the event of its being impossible for the Makhzen and those carrying on this business to come to an amicable arrangement. His Majesty's Government desire me to inquire of your Excellency whether efforts to arrive at an amicable compromise with the parties entitled to compensation have been made, and with what result, and to inform you that in their opinion the question of the appointment of experts cannot arise until this has been done.

Inclosure 2 in No. 117.

Mr. G. Lowther to Hadj Mohammed Torres.

(After compliments.) *Tangier, May* 8, 1907 (25 *Rabia I*, 1325).

REFERRING to my note of the 4th instant, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the British subjects who carry on the tobacco business here now inform me that they have not been approached by the Makhzen authorities with a view to arriving at an amicable arrangement regarding the amount of compensation they are entitled to receive for the loss which the contemplated monopoly will entail on them, and that they have so far confined themselves to furnishing, as requested by Sid Mohammed Mokri, a statement of the amount they considered would be a just

compensation, and a statement of their stocks. Under these circumstances the question of the appointment of the experts under Article 73 of the Act of Algeciras has not yet arisen, and the examination of the matter of indemnities on the 21st instant, as suggested in your note of 7 Rabia I (the 21st April, 1907), cannot take place, as far as British subjects are concerned.

Inclosure 3 in No. 117.

Memorandum from the Netherlands Minister.

LE Maghzen se place sur le point de vue que l'alinéa dernier de l'Article 73 autorise l'application de l'Article 117 en toute sa teneur, de sorte que trois experts peuvent être désignés indépendamment par lui. En effet, si ce point de vue ne serait pas accepté, il n'y aurait aucune disposition indiquant le nombre des experts à désigner. Il y a aussi peu de raison pour le Corps Diplomatique de s'immiscer dans cette question de désignation d'experts, puisqu'il ne s'agit pas de la question de savoir si, oui ou non, il sera procédé à l'expropriation du tabac en magasin (l'Article 73 donne en tout cas ce droit d'expropriation au Maghzen), mais seulement des mesures qui seront nécessaires pour arriver à la fixation de l'indemnité.

Il est vrai que la lecture de l'Article, pris comme tel et séparé des Articles 116 à 118, plaide contre le point de vue du Gouvernement Marocain. En lisant cet Article on dirait que la nomination des experts est exclusivement réservée au Maghzen et au Corps Diplomatique, de sorte que les Articles au sujet de l'expropriation (Articles 116 à 118) ne pourraient s'appliquer qu'en ce qui concerne la manière dont les experts, après leur nomination, fixeraient l'indemnité. Or, ces Articles 116 à 118 ne contiennent aucune disposition à cet égard.

Le Gouvernement de la Reine estime l'interprétation suivante la plus admissible :—

Dans la rédaction primitive de l'Article 73 (voir Acte, p. 62) il ne fut question que de la désignation par le Maghzen avec le Corps Diplomatique. Plus tard, en rédigeant les Articles concernant l'expropriation, on a pensé que l'on pourrait se servir de ces Articles pour la procédure d'indemnisation en faveur des industries existantes qui seraient lésées par l'établissement du monopole du tabac. Probablement on a eu en vue à cette occasion de régler la désignation des experts également d'après l'Article 117. Dans ce but on a joint le dernier alinéa à l'Article 73, sans se rendre compte que, par ce procédé, on a créé une contradiction par rapport à cette désignation.

[16180] No. 118.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 18.)

(No. 141.)

Sir, *Tangier, May* 12, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 134 of the 8th instant, I have the honour to transmit copies of letters addressed by Mr. Lennox, British Consular Agent at Marakesh, to Mr. Madden and Mr. Spinney, and evidently written in great haste.

As you will see, Mr. Lennox and the English missionaries had decided to leave on the 9th, the French a couple of days later, and the Germans are still undecided, though in his last letter Mr. Lennox states that the Germans had promised to write to their Minister stating that they concurred in the advisability of leaving. With the scanty information which has reached here from Marakesh it is most difficult to explain the situation. Nothing that has reached me points to any desire on the part of Mulai Hafid to be named Sultan. That pressure has been brought to bear on him to allow himself to be proclaimed is most likely, and it looks as if he were endeavouring to gain time in the hopes of the Makhzen being strong enough to send troops there to restore their authority.

The Rahamna are evidently indignant at the idea of French demands being complied with, at their countrymen being imprisoned for their participation in the murder of Dr. Mauchamp, and at the appointment of a man as Governor of the town who has a reputation for energy.

In view of the state of anarchy evidently reigning in the town, and of the statement of Mulai Hafid that he could give no hope of assistance to foreigners, there does not appear to have been any other course open to them than to leave the city as long as they could do so in security.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 118.

Mr. Lennox to Consul Madden.

Marakesh, May 6, 1907.

Dear Mr. Madden,

AFTER writing you to-day I heard from several that those Rahamna men who were still in town were very angry over the ten having accepted the money and not forcing the Viceroy to keep his promise regarding the release of the prisoners. I heard, too, from several sources that there was a strong anti-Christian feeling amongst the townspeople. It is apparent to all that the Governor has very little power, and all the people blame Mulai Hafid for having started this movement. It is thought that he has instructed the Rahamna people how to act, either with the view of keeping Bel Ghazzi from coming or to test the Government in Fez whether they have any authority and can leave Fez, or to prove to the Government how faithful he is and how hard he is working on their behalf. It seems to me that the whole thing must be caused by one or two things, either this is a strong anti-Christian movement as the result of the murder of Dr. Mauchamp and the subsequent rows, the occupation of Oujda, the appointment of the new Governor with soldiers, the guards placed in the streets, &c., or the whole thing has been started by the Viceroy for some purpose.

After sunset I was going to the Viceroy to ask for an escort for the ladies and children, when I received a note from M. Nier saying a German, M. Utting, had been riding in the streets with his Jewish clerk beside him on a mule when a man on a horse and one on a donkey ordered the Jew to remove his slippers. The Jew complied at once, M. Utting told him to replace them, the Moor loaded his rifle and aimed at the German, fortunately several people seized the rifle and prevented him firing. M. Utting took no notice, but rode away. He wears native costume. M. Nier and M. Utting called on the Governor, who said he was powerless to interfere; they could write him a letter stating the case and what they wished, and he could send to the Viceroy. M. Nier sent me a joint note which he proposed sending to the Governor, in which was requested that the Governor—

1. Publish by criers in every street that the Government do not approve of such conduct, and that every one will be punished severely who commits any excesses or insults Europeans, and also the residents in the streets who do not render assistance.
2. Instead of guards from the citizens, which have been withdrawn, armed soldiers should take their place.

If these conditions are not fulfilled we shall leave the town.

In a Conference we had over this, Messrs. Nairn, Lasallas, and myself agreed this would not be wise; even if the Government were willing or could grant these demands it would make the position of all Europeans much worse. It was ultimately agreed that a joint note should be signed by all briefly stating that we had all agreed to leave the place for the coast, and we ask an efficient escort, also place our interests, houses, &c., into the care of the Government. This serious step was decided upon after much consideration, and it will at least reveal in some way what is the policy of the Viceroy. He promised to Messrs. Nairn and Lasallas yesterday that Jews might freely go or ride in the town with their slippers on, and that everything was settled with Rahamna. To-day there were some four of Rahamna—the most energetic of the lot—had another interview with the Viceroy, and a curious thing about it is Lasallas says he sent for him and the French Agent, a Moor, so that they might hear the interview. They were put into another room, so that they could listen for themselves. It was rather a quiet meeting; they demanded the release of the prisoners, then asked that they might receive a daily allowance of 5 cents. The Viceroy said he would give them 10 cents daily. After coming out one of them quarrelled with the other for not having stood by him. He is a German protégé, and two were the Viceroy's old friends, one El Arbitel Hassen, whom he released from prison.

I fear the Viceroy will not agree to us all leaving, and we will have difficulty in obtaining an escort; but while so reluctant to take this step, I feel confident we cannot do otherwise under the circumstances. The feeling against Europeans is so strong that if any Europeans were killed in any row in the streets a general rising would be made against all, and it would only be in hiding that we could have any chance of escape.

Tuesday, 10 A.M.—I hear to-day that Muley-el-Haffid has spoken plainly to Rahamna delegates, saying that they are to consent among themselves and the other tribes, and if they bring a written Agreement on all they wish, and if Fez can do nothing to establish the authority of the Sultan, he is with them in all they wish; but meanwhile he has removed the guards, enforced the restrictions on the Jews, and will not allow Bel Ghazzi to enter the town, but will not release the prisoners or allow anything to be done to Europeans. He told them plainly that if they were successful in all their plans they cannot dispense with the Germans and English; no matter what they want to do they must be kept. How the solution is with Fez every one, so far as I can gather, is certain that all the tribes will never agree, and proclaim Muley-el-Haffid Sultan. If the Sultan would only leave Fez at once all would be over. Muley-el-Haffid will swear he has done his best for the Makhzen. The Germans have agreed again to talk to the Viceroy and demand protection before deciding to leave. We are going now, and I hope the interview will give some light on the intention of the Viceroy. Although we cannot rely on his promises we will be able to come to some conclusion.

The Viceroy arranged with Rahamna that they would give an escort to all Europeans who wish to leave, and would be responsible for their safety in the province if they (Europeans) applied to him for protection. Kaid-el-Arawee, one of the Sultan's messengers, is allowed to leave to-day, and has received an escort from Rahamna. I shall not leave if I can help it, but all ladies and children are leaving, and I shall arrange for their escort now.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) ALAN LENNOX.

Inclosure 2 in No. 118.

Mr. Lennox to Consul Madden.

Marakesh, May 7, 1907.

Dear Mr. Madden,

WE had a long discussion with the Viceroy to-day, but as we were not agreed about all leaving we did not mention, although he seemed to expect we would speak about it. He declared that all is well and every danger is over; that everything is satisfactorily arranged; that there will be no meeting at Ben Greer; and, in fact, everything is over. He says he is responsible for the country, but for the town he cannot say anything, as he has no authority in the town. He says he will give us guards for our houses and places of business, and soldiers to escort us through the streets, but this we would not accept. He says if we wish to go to the coast for a change it is all right, he will give us an escort, but there is no need to leave for any other cause. He blames Europeans for causing all this by spreading the report that he wishes to become Sultan. He says that this report is like the other one that has been in every mouth—*i.e.*, the French have been expelled from Oujda and all is lies. I asked him about Bel Ghazzi, as he was so strong against the Governor having started this movement and being unable to keep the peace in the town, &c. He replied that if Bel Ghazzi used diplomacy he might get in, but not otherwise, he swore he had done nothing to prevent his coming. If we had a strong Governor in town with several hundred soldiers we need not fear from Rahamna, but with the townspeople in a bad mood towards us, and no strong hand to control them, it is a very bad business, full of uncertainty and anxiety. He would give us no hope of assistance apart from his own pacific policy; he can use no force or pressure, but only tide over affairs until the Makhzen show themselves. He freely admits he was nearly beaten, and had a very hard struggle, so that if another and stronger move was made it would be too strong for him. It is exceedingly difficult to know what we should do. The missionaries are all going, and the French say they will only follow me, but I don't think we men should leave unless we agree that we all go, for a few weeks, until help of some kind comes from Fez, and we can return and remain in some measure of safety. This row has upset business very much.

Wednesday noon.—The Germans cannot agree about leaving at once. Considering all, I have decided to leave to-morrow. The French will go if ready; if not, in a day or two.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) ALAN LENNOX.

Inclosure 3 in No. 118.

Mr. Lennox to Mr. Spinney.

Dear Mr. Spinney, *Marakesh, May* 8, 1907.

NIER has now promised to draw up a joint letter to their Minister, saying they concur with us, and are only remaining because of commercial interests.

I shall leave to-morrow, and the French will leave in a day or two.

Yours, &c.
(Signed) ALAN LENNOX.

[16317] No. 119.

Mr. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 20.)

(No. 45.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May* 20, 1907.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 64 on the subject of the tobacco monopoly in Morocco, my colleagues, who admit that the Articles mentioned by you are contradictory, agree that an explanation of the discrepancy should be inserted in the *procès-verbal* of the meeting of the Plenipotentiaries. It is proposed further to make an addition to the following effect, viz., that the Moorish Government will nominate three experts, as will also each expropriated merchant, in the event of its proving impossible to arrive at an amicable arrangement. In order to comply with the provisions of Article 73, these selections will be submitted to the Diplomatic Body and the Moorish Government.

The procedure for the appointment of Arbiters as laid down in Article 117, *et seq.*, will then be followed.

Am I authorized to agree to such an arrangement?

[16482] No. 120.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 21.)

(No. 142.)
Sir, *Tangier, May* 13, 1907.

SINCE forwarding my despatch No. 141 of yesterday's date, I have received several despatches from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida containing some further details, but nothing of later date than the information I have already had the honour to communicate to you.

It would now appear that rumours of anti-foreign meetings being held in Rahamna began to reach Marakesh as early as the 25th ultimo, and that two interviews between the chief men of that tribe and the Viceroy had taken place before the 5th instant, when the following demands were put forward: the release of the men imprisoned in connection with the murder of Dr. Mauchamp; the prevention of the entry into Marakesh of the new Governor and his soldiers; the persecution of the Jews; the expulsion, or at any rate restrictions on the liberty of Europeans.

The Viceroy, it appears, made semblance of agreeing to some of these demands, and whilst refusing to release the prisoners or to expel Europeans, pacified the deputation of the tribesmen by a considerable money payment.

This action of the Viceroy seemed to relieve the situation temporarily, but the bulk of the tribesmen strongly disapproved the action of their deputation in accepting money and foregoing some of the demands, and, moreover, the fanaticism of the people had been roused, so that the position of Europeans in the town, as also of the Jews,

became disagreeable, and, as reported in my above-mentioned despatch, the British and French residents decided to leave. The important interests of two British firms with agents at Marakesh have thus been abandoned, considerable stocks of goods being left in their stores.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16483] No. 121.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 21.)

(No. 143.)
Sir, *Tangier, May* 14, 1907.

WITH reference to your telegram of the 13th instant, I fear I did not make my point clear with regard to the question of Syndicates to tender for the tobacco monopoly here

There being now, as I understand, Syndicates in the field representing German, French, Spanish, American, Belgian, and British capital—not all necessarily representing solely the interests of their country, but some of them in combination, it appeared to me that a fresh group entering into the field would do so at a disadvantage if it endeavoured to join an existing group or Syndicate which had already found the necessary capital, and did not require further assistance. I did not consider that any of the local manufacturers could command the capital or possess the business capacity to undertake an important venture of this kind, and I have heard of no desire on their part to do so. The only English banker established here already represents an American group. I did not see, nor do I see now, why a British Syndicate should not compete with those already in the field, if they could obtain the necessary information on the spot regarding consumption of tobacco, cost of manufacture, &c., and it must not be lost sight of that in nearly every case the manufacturing of the tobacco would, for reasons of economy, be carried on here, except in the case of the Compañía Tabacalera (Spanish Régie) obtaining the monopoly. This Company are bidding, and they would obviously import their tobacco already manufactured.

If, however, there is a question of the formation of a new and important Syndicate which British capitalists could join on equal terms, I can only see advantage in it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16798] No. 122.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 23.)

(No. 46.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May* 23, 1907.

A REPORT has been received from the Vice-Consul at Saffi, who is in relation with influential Moors, and who has long resided at that port, which says that he has reliable information that the Governor of Marakesh had intercepted Shereefian letters commanding his arrest, and that his attention is to have himself proclaimed Sultan.

Mulai Hafid is said to be able to count on the support of all the southern tribes and Governors, except Kaid Aissa, who is doubtful as yet, but who in all probability will assist the movement, and financial assistance has been promised to him by some rich Jews.

The French Minister, to whom I communicated the substance of the above, has not as yet news of a corroborative nature.

The Germans, who, I am given to understand, are under orders not to leave Morocco city except in the case of absolute necessity, alone remain, all other foreigners having now left.

[16317] No. 123.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 28.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Foreign Office, May* 23, 1907.

YOUR telegram No. 45: Tobacco monopoly.
Yes.

[16483] No. 124.

Foreign Office to Board of Trade.

Foreign Office, May 24, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letters of the 10th and 14th instant on the subject of the impending creation of a tobacco monopoly in Morocco, I am directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you a copy of a further despatch from His Majesty's Minister at Tangier,* explaining the reasons for his opinion that a British Syndicate might with advantage compete separately with the other Syndicates already in the field provided they were of sufficient standing and possessed the necessary capital. According to Mr. Lowther none of the local manufacturers are in a position to compete, and, in these circumstances, it seems to Sir E. Grey desirable to ascertain whether a group of British capitalists would be prepared to tender for a share in this monopoly, and, if so, whether they would be prepared to join hands with the French group.

Sir E. Grey would be glad to be favoured with any observations which the Board of Trade may desire to offer on this point.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

[16921] No. 125.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 25.)

(No. 144.)

Tangier, May 14, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 111 of the 19th April, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a note addressed to the doyen of the Diplomatic Body by Ben Sliman, and of the reply thereto by Comte Martens Ferrão on the subject of the measures to be taken for the security of foreigners in Casablanca and the suggested dismissal of the Governor of that town.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 125.

Sid-ben-Sliman to Count Martens Ferrão.

(Compliments d'usage.) 3 *Rabei I,* 1325 (14 *Avril,* 1907).

J'AI reçu la lettre par laquelle vous m'informiez que les Représentants des Puissances respectées avaient été vivement émus à la suite des nouvelles alarmantes répandues par le bas peuple des tribus de Chaouia au sujet de Casablanca et à la suite des rapports adressés par les Consuls à l'occasion de la réponse que leur avait faite le Gouverneur de la ville et d'après laquelle il était incapable d'assurer la sécurité de la ville. Vous demandiez donc au Makhzen de réfléchir à cette question, de changer le Gouverneur contre quelqu'un capable d'assurer la sécurité, de donner des ordres aux Caïds des tribus voisines de la ville, d'empêcher la populace de répandre des bruits inquiétants, et de renforcer la garnison de Casablanca par une troupe d'Askars envoyée de Tanger.

* No. 121.

J'ai pris bonne note de votre lettre et l'ai portée dès sa réception à la connaissance de mon maître, qui, après s'en être pénétré, m'a chargé de vous répondre en vous faisant tout d'abord l'exposé de la situation, qui est la suivante.

Sa Majesté a été informée de l'agitation survenue dans cette région. Les causes qui ont amené la population à répandre ces bruits alarmants ont pour origine les mauvais traitements que subissent les gens des tribus de la Chaouia qui se rendent à Casablanca pour faire leurs emplettes. Ces mauvais traitements, qui sont sans précédent et qui ont pour origine l'oppression exercée sur les gens par certains Juifs protégés et d'autres, à tel point qu'un Juif protégé avait souffleté un Musulman, sans que jamais celui-ci ait pu parvenir à obtenir justice de son agresseur. Les contribus de la victime se sont rendus dans les douars de la Chaouia, dont ils ont invoqué l'appui par des sacrifices. Ces gens de la Chaouia sont également témoins des actes arbitraires de mainmise sur les terrains qui avoisinent la ville, &c., et des dommages de toutes sortes, qui leur rendent difficile l'accès des marchés de la ville, bien que cette ville soit le lieu de leur commerce, le dépôt de leur marchandise, et la résidence de leurs Notables depuis longue date; c'est pour cette raison que l'esprit des dites tribus s'est mis en éveil et la populace commence à bavarder, suivant ce que leur intelligence lui dictait, espérant ainsi parvenir à empêcher des actes de mainmise jusqu'à ce que le Makhzen prenne la parole en leur nom pour faire cesser ces préjudices. Il se trouve justement que le Makhzen avait donné des ordres, avant la réception de votre lettre, aux Gouverneurs des tribus avoisinantes d'empêcher la populace de ces tribus de continuer à prendre part à ces désordres et d'en causer et de punir ceux qui recommenceraient à en parler. L'oncle de Sa Majesté, Moulay El Amine, a reçu l'ordre de tenir la main à tout ceci jusqu'à ce que la tranquillité renaisse complètement et qu'il n'en reste plus de souvenir. De même, des ordres Chérifiens ont prescrit l'envoi d'un certain nombre de soldats de Tanger pour tenir garnison dans la ville de Casablanca et calmer les habitants, bien qu'il soit parvenu aujourd'hui à la connaissance du Makhzen que la populace qui s'etait réunie, en vue de cette agitation, s'est dispersée et chacun est rentré chez lui et la tranquillité est rétablie, grace à Dieu.

Quant au rapport adressé par les Consuls relativement à l'impuissance dont a fait preuve le Gouverneur actuel, nul doute que cela se rapporte à la demande de renforcer la garnison de Casablanca, en vue de protéger la ville. Il avait d'ailleurs écrit auparavant au Makhzen à ce sujet, et c'est pour cette raison que le Gouvernement Chérifien avait antérieurement donné l'ordre de lui envoyer un certain nombre de soldats de Tanger. On ne peut donc croire qu'il ait apporté cette négligence dans tout ce qu'il avait pouvoir de faire dans cette circonstance. Quoiqu'il en soit, des réprimandes très sévères lui ont été envoyées à cause de l'interprétation que les Consuls ont tiré de son langage.

De toute façon de nouveaux ordres lui ont été donnés pour qu'il veille avec le plus grand soin à la défense des droits des indigènes et des étrangers et de traiter ces derniers, sous tous les rapports, suivant ce qu'exigent les droits de l'humanité, de telle façon que dans l'avenir il ne puisse susciter aucun sujet de plainte contre lui, s'il plaît à Dieu.

Sa Majesté Chérifienne espère que les Puissances étrangères amies et honorées prêteront leur concours pour le maintien de la tranquillité et du calme dans cette région en envoyant des avertissements à leur Consul, à leurs sujets, et à leurs protégés pour qu'ils vivent en bonne intelligence avec leurs voisins et évitent tout ce qui pourrait jeter le trouble dans l'esprit de la population rurale, qui ne comprend pas le but des choses, en attendant que la situation redevienne normale et que la force du Makhzen, qui doit suffir, avec l'aide de Dieu, à tout événement important, soit complètement en état.

(Signé) ABDELKRIM-BEN-SLIMAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 125.

Count Martens Ferrão to Sid-ben-Sliman.

(Compliments d'usage.) [*Non datée.*]

J'AI réuni mes honorables collègues du Corps Diplomatique et je leur ai fait part des termes de votre lettre du 14 Avril, 1907 (3 Rabei I, 1325), relative à la situation de la ville de Casablanca.

Nous avons le regret de constater que votre Excellence n'a pas donné satisfaction au désir exprimé par le Corps Diplomatique dans sa lettre du 11 Avril, et qu'il

maintient comme Gouverneur de la ville un homme qui ne s'est pas montré à la hauteur de sa tâche.

Les procédés employés par Si Bou Backer Ben Bouzid pour éloigner un danger imminent, qui a payé une rançon aux tribus qui menaçaient la ville, sont en effet un encouragement au désordre. L'ordre n'a d'ailleurs été que bien momentanément restauré. L'assassinat de l'Isréalite Acoca vient démontrer l'audace des malfaiteurs. Il est nécessaire que le Makhzen châtie sévèrement les coupables et ramène ainsi la sécurité parmi les habitants paisibles, justement indignés d'un tel crime.

Votre Excellence est d'ailleurs inexactement renseignée quand elle accuse les protégés des diverses Puissances d'être les auteurs des troubles qui se sont produits.

Nous ne saurions admettre qu'on porte ainsi contre eux des accusations vagues et générales et qui ne paraissent reposer sur aucun fondement sérieux. Si le Makhzen a des sujets légitimes de plaintes contre certains protégés il doit les signaler à la Légation intéressée, qui ne manquera pas d'examiner l'affaire avec le souci de faire justice.

Pour le moment, nous comptons que les troupes Chérifiennes récemment envoyées à Casablanca ne failliront pas à leur mission, qu'elles rétabliront l'ordre, qui ne saurait être maintenu que par la fermeté des autorités. Il importe à ce point de vue que le Makhzen procède à la destitution du Gouverneur actuel, que tous les Consuls s'accordent à représenter comme faible et incapable, et qu'il le remplace par un homme énergique. Le Corps Diplomatique ne peut laisser tomber dans l'oubli sa protestation contre les agissements de Si Bou Backer. Je vous serai obligé, en conséquence, de vouloir, bien signaler à nouveau cette affaire à Sa Majesté Chérifienne et de me faire connaître ses décisions.

[16922] No. 126.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 25.)

(No. 145.)

Sir, *Tangier, May 14, 1907.*

IN my despatch of the 20th April I transmitted to you a copy of the reply sent by Cid Abdelkrim-ben-Sliman to the note of the French Minister, containing the demands made by his Government in connection with the Mauchamp murder. I have not seen the text of the French Minister's reply, but I understood that it stated that the note of the Makhzen was not sufficiently precise in the compliance with the demands made, and that no negotiation could be engaged upon until the Makhzen had agreed to comply with every demand made.

The French Minister also agreed to the dispatch to the Oujda district of a high Moorish official, but only on the condition that he should be vested with full powers to carry out the engagements concluded in 1901–1902. The note also called attention to the fact that quite recently a fresh consignment of arms had been sent to Ma-al-Ainin, and rejected the proposal that a Commission should be appointed to delimitate the frontier of Mauritania.

I have now the honour to transmit a copy of the reply which has been sent to the French Minister by Cid Abdelkrim Sliman. In this note the Makhzen express themselves as ready to comply with every demand that has been made and raise no further difficulties.

But some definite action on their part will now be required, and since the dispatch of this note a further difficulty has arisen, if the reports from Marakesh are true—namely, the release, at the demand of the Rehamna, of the prisoners arrested in connection with the Mauchamp murder.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 126.

Sid-ben-Sliman to French Minister.

(After compliments.) *24 Rabia I, 1325 (May 9, 1907).*

I RECEIVED your reply to the answer addressed to your Excellency regarding the demands founded on the case of Dr. Mauchamp, who was killed at Morocco city,

stating that you had referred to your respected Government my reply, in which His Shereefian Majesty accepted in principle the demands put forward by you, but that they were not satisfied with that reply, because it was not clearly stated that El Warzazi would be imprisoned or removed from Marakesh, nor that the necessary powers would be given to the Vizier, Cid Mohammed-el-Guebbas, to draw up the Police Regulations and inaugurate that force; and you add that it was understood, from my remarks regarding the putting into force of the frontier Agreements, that it was intended merely to place some military posts in those districts, and that therefore the respected (French) Government could not give its permission to the Delegate of the Makhzen in this matter to enter Oujda until it is furnished with a copy of what is to be agreed upon, so that it might be certain that the powers of the Delegate would permit him to fulfil his task without reference (to the Makhzen); and you state that your exalted Government will not accept any discussion on the proposal made by me to appoint an envoy to proceed to the Adrar district, especially as you have heard of the dispatch of arms by the Moorish Government to Cape Juby, and as it still awaits the punishment of the assailants in the cases of the attacks on Frenchmen, and I note all you say on these matters and brought it to the knowledge of His Shereefian Majesty, who took note of it, and instructed me to answer that His Shereefian Majesty had accepted in principle all the demands as I informed you in my reply, and had given reasons where it was not possible (difficult) to carry out certain matters.

Regarding what you state about El Warzazi, it was not the intention of the Makhzen in what I replied to defend him, but merely to state his present state of health, and that, should he be imprisoned or removed to another place, it is most probable it would hasten his death, as his sufferings are known to every one, and the exalted French Government would have compassion and refuse to participate in any such thing, as it is the first to give heed to the rights of humanity; and even should it decide to call in doctors to examine him to make more certain as to his condition, it can thereby remove any doubts; and should it not accept the plea put forward, nor a medical examination, and it is absolutely necessary for him to go, the Makhzen is prepared to send him in his dying condition, though it cause his death.

As regards empowering the Minister of War to draw up the Police Regulations and put it in force, instructions have already been sent to him to draw up that Regulation as is not hidden from you, and they have now been renewed to him to set to work them, as indicated in the Act of the Conference.

As regards your remark relative to the interpretation put on the former reply that it is the intention of the Makhzen to limit itself to instituting certain military posts, &c., I can assure you that the Makhzen did not intend that. Its sole idea from the first was to carry out the Agreements textually, and should assistance be required in any matters for this purpose there is none to whom it would apply before the glorious French Government.

As regards the stipulations (conditions) to the drawing up of which you refer before the French Government gives permission to the Makhzen Delegate sent to put into force the Regulations regarding the frontier to enter Oujda, the Makhzen is at a loss to understand what is meant by the required conditions, as, if the Agreements made between the two Governments are referred to, they are fully drawn up and signed, and it only remains for them to be put into force; but should anything beyond this be meant, the Makhzen asks for details in order that it may be seen what is to be done. The Delegate sent to put into force the matters connected with the frontier has been empowered to act in conformity with the Agreements on that subject.

As regards your statement that you do not accept any discussion regarding the Adrar districts, and your reference to your former letter on that subject, I have already replied that the Makhzen has no desire to raise trouble or wage war against all those of your nation or its protégés there, but merely to carry out such measures as will cause the condition of neighbourly intercourse to remain free from all that might cause worry, and I pointed out to you the reason for sending Mulai Dris-ben-Abderrahman to that part, and added that Shereefian orders had been sent to him to return with those with him; and as you say you will not accept any discussion on this point, the Makhzen postpones doing so for the present until such time as it is possible to discuss it hereafter, please God. And as regards your remark that the Makhzen has sent a quantity of ammunition to Cape Juby, &c., I must inform your Excellency that the Makhzen had merely given permission formerly for a quantity of ammunition to be sent to Cape Juby to strengthen the port of Cape Juby and its environs, and since that date it has not given permission for the dispatch

of any further quantity of ammunition or arms of any sort to those parts. However, orders had already been sent to hold back at Mogador the said ammunition about which orders had previously been sent, if it is still there, or at Cape Juby, should it have arrived there, and that it is not to be delivered to the people there it was intended for.

Regarding your statement relative to the punishment of those wanted for the attacks committed on Frenchmen, you are aware of my reply informing you that orders had been sent for the dispatch of those concerned in the case of Dr. Mauchamp to Tangier to be sentenced as they merit, and that those concerned in the case of Lassallas are still in prison at Morocco city for that offence, as also those concerned in the Giraucourt case are still in prison at Fez; and that of those concerned in the Charbonnier case one has been arrested and is now in the Tangier prison, and the Makhzen is doing its utmost to catch the other remaining one. His Shereefian Majesty trusts you will allow the Deputy Cid Hadj Mohammed to meet you to discuss with you the punishment still to be inflicted on the assailants in the cases of the two murdered men, and also those concerned in the two cases of wounding, and what punishment each of them merits, in order that the punishments may be carried out in accordance with what is agreed upon by both parties, and the Shereefian Government still trusts that the glorious French Government will do as is expected of it towards solving this question.

May you, &c.

[16925] No. 127.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 25.)

(No. 148.)

Sir, *Tangier, May* 15, 1907.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 72 of the 6th instant, there is not any authority for the statement that the establishment of wireless telegraphy was under prohibition in Morocco, beyond the declaration of His Majesty the Sultan to that effect through his Ministers. This is the law which usually prevails here until, where a foreigner is interested, a protest is made.

The statement was in this case an original one, made by the Makhzen and unsupported by the quotation of any law or Treaty, and it was on these grounds that the French objected and eventually obtained the release of the instruments.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16926] No. 128.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 25.)

(No. 149.)

Sir, *Tangier, May* 17, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 135 of the 9th instant, I have the honour to report that I have received the following details of an attack made by the Anjera tribe on the village of Beni Mzala, with the object of capturing or killing the brigand Valiente. The attack was made under the instructions received from the Minister of War, and my informant was one of the men who took part in it. His information I am, however, unable to check. It appears that, when the tribesmen attacked the village, they found that they met with much stronger resistance than they had anticipated, and it was discovered that there were four Riffian soldiers from the Spanish garrison of Ceuta with them. What they term as dynamite bombs were thrown at them, and it was seen that troops were stationed on the frontier, presumably to allow the Valiente partisans to get into Spanish territory, should they find it necessary to abandon the village.

The villagers were also provided, so my informant states, with Spanish bugles, and arms and ammunition by the Spanish military authorities.

On seeing that it would be impossible to capture Valiente, or follow him up if they had managed to dislodge him from the village, the Anjera men withdrew, and the Headmen of the tribe came in to report to Cid Guebbas, and protest against the action

taken by the Spanish authorities at Ceuta, which was, in their opinion, likely to lead to friction between Spain and the Makhzen if continued in, and they asked Cid Guebbas to withdraw the orders he had given them to capture Valiente. This, however, he refused to do, and threatened to send a military force to punish their tribe if they failed to carry out those orders.

In view of the attitude taken by the Minister of War, the men decided to return home and lay the whole matter before the tribe, and leave it to their decision as to what future action they should take.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[16927] No. 129.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received May* 25.)

(No. 150.)

Sir, *Tangier, May* 18, 1907.

HIS Majesty's Vice-Consul at Mogador reports, under date of the 12th instant, that some excitement had lately prevailed in that town owing to the news received from Marakesh. The Arabic scribe of the Vice-Consulate informed Mr. Wilkinson that some tribesmen had arrived in the town, and were endeavouring to incite the Moslem townspeople to join in a rising against the Christians. Mr. Wilkinson consulted with his French and Spanish colleagues, and a message was sent to the Governor, who absolutely denied the truth of the report, adding that, should any move of that nature be contemplated, he would nip it in the bud. The French Consul was inclined to be sceptical about the news, and pointed out that the Governor had every reason to prevent any rising. Mr. Wilkinson, however, doubts the power of the Governor to take any effective action, and, owing to his great unpopularity, he can exert no moral influence. The three Consular officers, as a measure of precaution, decided to report the foregoing to their respective Ministers at Tangier by telegraph viâ Canary Islands; but the telegrams have not yet been received.

The Vice-Consul called upon a Mr. Richmond, an English missionary, who has resided for some time at Mogador, and who a short time previously had stated to him that he was quite easy in his mind as to the state of security reigning at Mogador. Mr. Richmond now stated that he was much impressed by the sudden change in the temper of the people both in the town and in the country, and by the fact that all were now providing themselves with rifles and cartridges, even the better-class Moors being alarmed, as there was no knowing where a rising might end, if one were to take place. Mr. Richmond subsequently put his impressions in the form of a letter, copy of which I beg leave to transmit herewith.

The large French cruiser "Jeanne d'Arc" is on the coast, and should arrive at Mogador about this date, so that, should there be any cause for uneasiness as to the safety of the European population, efficient steps could be taken for their protection.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 129.

Mr. Richmond to Vice-Consul Wilkinson.

Dear Sir, *Mogador, May* 12, 1907.

WITH reference to the rumours of unrest amongst the native population in town and in the surrounding district, I take the liberty to express to you my opinion in writing.

I have been staying in the country for nearly a month. When I first went out the people seemed quite happy and contented. They continued so until the arrival at Mogador of the Sultan's letter announcing the occupation of Oujda by the French. What they seem to resent most is the fact that the Governor of Mogador fired a salute of guns in honour of what they looked upon as a Christian victory over Islam. The people openly curse him as a traitor to their faith.

On coming into town I find that the temperament of the people has greatly

changed. In visiting Moorish houses I find that guns and cartridges are to be found, and on questioning the owners why they are providing themselves with such costly weapons, they invariably answer that, "The times require us to be prepared for any emergency, and as we have no Government to defend us or our rights, we must be prepared to defend ourselves." I do not think that the tribes in the immediate vicinity of Mogador will make any attempt to enter the town at present, but they are all feverishly engaged in getting their crops secured, as they say trouble is impending. I am convinced, however, that were an attempt made by Anflus to again enter the town, the Governor would be absolutely helpless, as the townspeople are all in favour of the country Governor and against Bargash.

There are also a number of strange Moors in town at present, and they seem to be preaching sedition against the present Sultan, and telling the people to follow the example of the Morocco City people. In short, my opinion is that it only requires a spark to set the whole country ablaze in a holy war.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. RICHMOND.

[16939] No. 130.

Sir E. Egerton to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 25.)

(No. 93. Confidential.)
Sir, *Rome, May 21, 1907.*

IN my despatch No. 84 of the 7th instant I had the honour to report that Signor Tittoni believed that the troublesome little question of the engineer in Morocco had been settled, but, from what the French Ambassador informs me, he has had fresh discussions with Signor Tittoni on the subject, for it appears the attitude of the German Representative at Tangier is unchanged. M. Barrère, however, extracted the promise from Signor Tittoni that, if the assurances given the latter at Berlin on the subject were not maintained, he would instruct his Representative to vote with the majority for the French engineer.

Signor Tittoni told me to-day that he had telegraphed to Signor Pansa to beg the German Foreign Office to send instructions at once to Dr. Rosen to carry out the agreement come to.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

[16679] No. 131.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 310.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May 25, 1907.*

THE French Minister called at this Office on the 22nd instant, and communicated a Memorandum to the effect that the German Minister at Tangier had informed his Spanish colleague that the German Government could not consent to the nomination of a Frenchman to the post of State Engineer for Morocco. They held that this official must be the subject of some neutral country, and that the names of the candidates for the post must be submitted to the Diplomatic Body at Tangier.

Finally, Dr. Rosen declared that the German Government would only accept a Spaniard as Assistant Engineer, on condition that the Chief Engineer should not be a Frenchman.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[16178] No. 132.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 80.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, May 25, 1907.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 139 of the 10th instant, on the subject of Mining Concessions in Morocco, and I approve the terms of the note addressed by you to Sid-ben-Sliman, requesting that before any grants are made British subjects may be allowed an opportunity of putting in their applications.

I should be glad to know, with reference to the second sentence of Article 112 of the Algeciras Act, whether, so far as you are aware, the Makhzen have made any study of the mining laws prevailing in foreign countries.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[17269] No. 133.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 27.)

(No. 47.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May 27, 1907.*

CONDITIONS of tenders for the new tobacco monopoly have now been drawn up and are expected immediately.

A few days ago the Banque d'Outre-Mer was informed by the Belgian bidder for the monopoly that by payment of 400,000 fr. as bribes to the Moorish officials he can obtain the monopoly on very favourable terms in combination with German firm.

[17270] No. 134.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received May 27.)

(No. 48.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, May 27, 1907.*

MY telegram No. 46 of the 23rd instant.

A written assurance to the effect that he can protect the lives of foreigners in Marakesh has been given by Viceroy to German Consular Agent.

In view of the fact that there will be large claims as long as British subjects are kept away, shall I endeavour to obtain similar written assurance from Makhzen, and authorize the English to return?

[17270] No. 135.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 29)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May 28, 1907.*

YOUR telegram No. 48: Disturbances at Morocco City.

I see no objection, provided you consider that an assurance from the Viceroy that he is capable of protecting lives of British subjects may be relied upon.

[17269] No. 136.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 30.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, May 28, 1907.*

TOBACCO monopoly.

If the information reported in your telegram No. 47 [of the 27th May] reached you in such a way that you feel you can make use of it, please consider advisability of consulting with your colleagues with a view of preventing action foreshadowed.

[17792]

No. 137.

Consul MacLeod to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 1.)

(No. 4.)

Fez, May 16, 1907.

Sir,

IN continuance of my despatch No. 2 of the 9th April, I beg now to give account of events here since that date.

The Vizier for Foreign Affairs led the Consuls at Fez to expect that the Shereefian public letter on the situation with France would be in the sense of strong reprobation of the recent outrages on French citizens, and of appeal to the Sultan's subjects to treat foreigners justly and conformably to Islamic law, custom, and friendship.

It seems, however, that the Sultan's chief feelings were of irritation at the French action, and of fear that his subjects would misunderstand the situation and suppose that His Majesty had sold Oujdah to France.

It will be seen from the annotated copy of the letter itself, which I have the honour to inclose herewith, that wrong-doing, in the form of breach of Treaties, is imputed to France; that there is no specific exhortation to the Moorish public to behave differently, and only they are entreated not to be alarmed by what has occurred, for the Sultan is opposing the proceedings of France, and doing his best to procure the evacuation of Oujdah.

To avoid forming any unfair impressions in the matter, I tried repeatedly to get permission to take a copy of the Arabic text itself of the letter from the Vizier for Foreign Affairs and the Grand Vizier, but these requests were always evaded.

The first reply to the French written representations in regard to the situation appears to have been of essentially the same tenor as the Shereefian letter.

The Court, however, presently became uneasy at the alacrity with which the Kaïds and people in and around Oujdah were acquiescing in the occupation of that district, and the Master of the Ceremonies, Kaïd Dris Beni Aish (formerly Governor of Oujdah, and an inveterate opponent of French policy here), was ordered to go thither to supervise the carrying out of the Franco-Moorish (1902) Frontier Agreement. He strongly resisted taking this appointment, but the Sultan, moved partly by the Tazzy family, who are anxious to have Kaïd Beni Aish out of their way, partly by an idea that it will reassure the Moorish public to have so anti-French a man as Kaid Beni Aish in command in Oujdah district, and partly by an idea that it is Kaïd Beni Aish on whom should fall the task of removing the difficulties his advice has done so much to create, proved inexorable.

Kaid Beni Aish's anti-French action has been most notably seen in his assiduous support of "Ma-al Ain," the semi-independent Sheikh of the hinterland south-east of Cape Juby. Chiefly at Kaïd Beni Aish's instance this Sheikh has been repeatedly supplied with money and arms for use against the French, to whom he has been a constant source of trouble in that region.

It is now a principal demand of the French that the Moorish Government change all this, and how to accede thereto and yet "save his face" with "Ma-al Ain," and the inhabitants of those parts is perhaps the most difficult of all problems which now beset the Sultan, for "Ma-al Ain" has, I understand, always threatened the Court that if he be not supported against the French he will place himself under their protection.

His aim really has been, and is still, to obtain either Moorish or French help to enhance his own position, and make him the master of a number of other (but smaller) Shereefs-Sheikhs in that region.

Subsequent French representations, aided by the Sultan's increasing financial straits and the necessity of speedily raising a small loan, have, however, now modified the Court's attitude considerably. The French Consul has informed me that on the 8th instant a reply in an entirely conciliatory sense was sent to the French Minister, and the Court are now endeavouring, through the French Legation, to get an advance of 2,000,000 fr. (80,000*l.*) to account of a loan for which they are negotiating with the Morocco State Bank. So far as the French Consul knew, the only security available for the loan is the 40 per cent. of the customs receipts still remaining to the Sultan. In 1906 the 60 per cent. of customs receipts payable to the bondholders of the French loan (1904) had not been sufficient to pay the instalments due for interest and sinking fund. The object of the loan is to enable the Moorish Court to pay off—

1. The shortage of last year to the French bondholders;
2. All advances received from other quarters; and
3. Their outstanding debts of various kinds.

For all this about 1,000,000*l.* at least seems likely to be required. The various privileges of the French (1904) bondholders having passed to the Morocco State Bank, it seems inevitable that when this loan is concluded the whole of the customs receipts will be payable to the Bank, which will then claim to be given such joint control of the customs as, previous to the Act of Algeciras, should have been exercised by the French (1904) bondholders.

In my despatch No. 1 of the 2nd April I anticipated that the Moorish Court would be deeply, and, as towards Germany, very unfavourably impressed by Germany's failure to prevent the occupation of Oujdah.

The language one hears on every side at Fez, as used by Court functionaries towards Germany, these few weeks already shows this very manifestly. There seems to be, too, amongst Germans here—for instance, the German officers and Acting German Consul—a considerable change of feeling. Formerly they were very optimistic as to what could be accomplished by the Moors with their assistance; now they seem much less hopeful. From all I can judge, it is beginning to be realized that the idea on which German policy these two years has been based—namely, that the state of things under the Sultan Mulai-al-Hassan might quite well be restored—is a fallacy.

In this immediate neighbourhood things, happily, remain quiet. There have been good rains, the crops promise well, and food-stuffs and fodder are cheaper than they have been these five years.

The "Mulud" festivities in the event passed off even at Mequinez (the head-quarters of the "Aissowa" and "Hamatcha" sects) without notable incident.

In south-west Beni Hassan, about 20 miles north-east of Rabat, the inhabitants recently killed their Kaïd and pillaged his residence. Since then four cases of robbery have occurred there of British couriers, and a camel caravan, with goods from Rabat for Fez has been pillaged in that district.

So far as I know yet, no British subject or protected person is affected by the caravan robbery.

In regard to the courier robberies I continue to ask the Moorish authorities here to arrest the criminals and to make good what has been lost, but up till now nothing has been done.

Early in April I sent two natives, on separate occasions, to travel in the districts between Fez and Taza and Melilla to learn what was passing thereabouts.

The following is the sum of their news:—

The Pretender remains at Kasbah Iselwan. As against the Sultan's troops, he seems neither to have gained nor lost ground of late. His own tribes appear somewhat discontented, but while grumbling at his exactions they still do not seem minded to return, even nominally, to the Sultan's rule.

Traffic between Taza and Melilla is going on as usual.

The Pretender's tribes have not been unduly excited by the occupation of Oujdah, and no disposition on his or their part has been manifested to molest the French.

It is fortunate, however, that the occupation occurred in late spring, when tribesmen are interested in keeping quiet so as to save their ripening crops from the damage to which disturbances, or the passage of bodies of men and animals, expose them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

Inclosure in No. 137.

Shereefian Letter respecting Occupation of Oujdah, read in Karuin Mosque, Fez, April 2, 1907.

Praise to God! There shall no Kingdom endure but His!

To the Acting Governor and people of Fez (salutations):

A FRENCH doctor residing at Marrakesh has been murdered, as well as a Frenchman at Tangier, and a Frenchman was wounded at Tekna, and another

Frenchman at Fez has been wounded. In all, there are four persons of French nationality to whom such things have occurred.

The French Government, being much moved on learning of these evil deeds of our subjects and feeling aggrieved, therefore assembled troops and have occupied Oujdah.

This is contrary to Treaties, and has been done temporarily until these matters shall be settled between us. Remain calm, however, and have no anxiety, for we are, with God's help, doing our best to settle with them and to procure their leaving Oujdah, and we will use our money and our men unsparingly to attain that object.

Peace.

18 *Safar*, 1325 A.H. (*April* 2, 1907).

Note of Authorities for this Version of Shereefian Letter.

1. Report of scribe of British Consulate, present at reading of it and within 3 yards of the reader.
2. Report of intelligent young Moor, who heard the letter read in Mosque of sacred town of Mulai Dris, Zarhon.
3. Version of letter given verbally by Sultan to Dr. Verdon. (This was given to me very confidentially.)
4. Press versions of letter as read at Mequinez and Dar-al-Baida.
5. Shifty language held by Grand Vizier and Vizier of Foreign Affairs in regard to contents of letter, and their evasions of requests for permission to copy the text of it.

[17793] No. 138.

Consul MacLeod to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 1.)

(No. 5.)

Fez, May 20, 1907.

Sir,

IT was reported yesterday that the Sultan intended moving to southern Morocco very shortly.

On inquiring of the Vizier of Foreign Affairs last evening, he informed me that the Sultan's tent would be pitched outside Fez in a day or two, but it was quite uncertain when His Majesty would actually be able to set out.

This morning the Sultan's tent was pitched, as expected.

After allowing 600 or 700 men to be left at Fez, the Sultan has now some 2,000 to 2,500 soldiers available for this expedition, and to these will be added contingents from various northern tribes to bring up his total following to perhaps 4,000 to 5,000 men.

Whether these contingents and the funds for the expedition will be forthcoming soon remains to be seen.

In the meantime, however, it is supposed by the Court that the news of these preparations will itself have a sobering effect on the southern tribes. Unfortunately similar threats have so often been made, and not carried out, that it cannot be expected that the tribes will take the present one as seriously as the Court desires.

Should the Court leave Fez, renewed activity on the part of the Pretender's tribes is to be anticipated, but under existing circumstances, this would seem a lesser danger than to allow the southern tribes to go on unchecked in their present defiant course.

The news of recent events at Marrakesh has, so far, not had any exciting effect on the population hereabouts. Comments derisory of the Government are, however, to be heard on all sides.

To-day, the Sultan is, for instance, credited with an intention to take with him a number of Fez Shereefs, Ulema, and Notables to intercede with the southern tribes.

"In short," say the public rhythmically, "we are to have Hakuma bi rahba" (Government by entreaty!).

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

[17768] No. 139.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 1.)

(No. 152.)

Tangier, May 20, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 137 of the 9th instant, I have the honour to report that, at a recent plenary meeting, the Moorish Delegates maintained that the charge of 1 per cent. for a statistical and weighing due had been fixed for the coasting trade, as Article 65, which imposed this tax, formed part of Chapter IV of the Act of Algeciras, which dealt with the creation of new revenues, and, as His Majesty the Sultan had already decreed that 1 per cent. should be levied, it would produce a bad impression if a change were now made.

A Special Committee, of which I was a member, was selected to arrive at an understanding. At one meeting I called the attention of the Moorish Delegates to the Declaration made by them at Aigeciras, a copy of which is inclosed herewith for reference (see p. 291 of the "Discussion of the Act of Algeciras"), from which it appears that the 1 per cent. in question was meant merely to cover the expenses of this statistical and weighing due tax; but the Moorish Delegates urged that the numerous reforms now to be made in the Custom-house would entail upon them very heavy expenses, and made an urgent appeal for the 1 per cent.

In order to safeguard the dignity of the Sultan in the matter, it was decided that the 1 per cent. should be imposed after two years, provided that the Permanent Custom-house Committee declared itself satisfied with the manner in which the statistical and weighing tables were kept, but that, meanwhile, only $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. should be charged.

The plenary meeting declared itself satisfied with this solution, and an understanding was arrived at that, in cases where the full 1 per cent. had been paid under protest, the merchant should be gradually reimbursed the sums paid beyond the $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

I inclose herewith a copy of the Declaration on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 139.

Declaration by Moorish Delegates.

LEURS Excellences MM. les Délégués Marocains, sollicités d'expliquer ce qu'ils entendent par "droit de pesage," déclarent qu'il s'agirait d'une sorte de droit minime de statistique qui serait perçu sur toutes les marchandises qui ne sont pas actuellement grevées d'un droit à l'exportation et aussi sur les marchandises nationales destinées au commerce de cabotage. D'après MM. les Délégués Marocains, la perception de ces droits ne serait que la compensation des frais qu'occasionne à la Douane Marocaine l'enregistrement des marchandises à la sortie.

Inclosure 2 in No. 139.

Declaration by Plenary Meeting.

UN droit de statistique et de pesage de $\frac{3}{4}$ pour cent sera prélevé sur les marchandises transportées par cabotage. Si, après un délai de deux ans, le Comité Permanent des Douanes présentera au Makhzen et au Corps Diplomatique un rapport constatant que l'organisation de statistique et de pesage répond aux exigences du commerce, le droit précité sera porté au maximum de 1 pour cent. Il est entendu qu'à partir de l'entrée en vigueur du présent impôt aucune autre taxe de pesage ne sera plus payée.

[17770] No. 140.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 1.)

(No. 154. Confidential.) *Tangier, May* 20, 1907.

Sir,

YESTERDAY afternoon I called upon the Minister of War, who has been here since December last in command of the Government forces, and during our conversation his Excellency referred to the present condition of affairs at Morocco City, and asked for my opinion as to the best means of restoring order in that district.

I told his Excellency that the only advice I could offer was that no time should be lost by the Makhzen in establishing its authority there, as heavy claims would be sure to be made for the interruption of business and the enforced departure of the Europeans from that city, and that these claims would be in proportion to the length of time which might elapse before it would be safe for them to return. His Excellency asked if he had my authority to quote me in sending this advice to the Court, and I agreed to his doing so.

I gathered from remarks made by Cid Guebbas that some doubt exists in his mind as to the true attitude of Moulai Hafid, the Sultan's brother and Viceroy at Morocco City in the present troubles there, although he was evidently trying to persuade himself that there was no doubt about his loyalty to the Sultan. In any case, he said, he was advising His Majesty to take it for granted that he is loyal, and send him what assistance is possible, with letters applauding his energy on behalf of His Majesty, and requesting him to spare no effort to maintain order there until His Majesty's arrival. This he hopes will give the tribes the idea that Moulai Hafid is in reality working with the Sultan, and help to keep them quiet. On no account, he added, should any sign of displeasure be shown by His Majesty, as such a course would merely hasten matters if Moulai Hafid is disloyal.

His Excellency told me that there are rumours in the town of orders having been given for the preparations to be made for His Majesty's departure shortly for Rabat on his way to Morocco City, but he is writing deprecating any such move in the present state of affairs in the country. For this he adduced several reasons, one being the difficulty of finding any one capable and of sufficient confidence to be left as Viceroy at Fez. Another was the question of the amount of support the tribes are likely to afford.

In his opinion it would be hopeless for His Majesty to expect to successfully reach Morocco City unless the more important tribes were on his side, any attempt to do so without their assistance would lead to disaster and the certain loss of Morocco City and Southern Morocco, as, even granting that Mulai Hafid is loyal at present, circumstances might become too strong for him, and he be compelled to throw in his lot with the disaffected tribes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[17771] No. 141.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 1.)

(No. 155. Confidential.) *Tangier, May* 21, 1907.

Sir,

DURING a visit I paid yesterday to Cid Mohammed Guebbas, the Minister of War, his Excellency spoke to me about the difficulties he is encountering from the Committee engaged in elaborating the regulations for the police. He spoke with considerable bitterness of the unyielding attitude adopted by the French Commandant on that Commission, who, his Excellency remarked, might have been especially chosen for his domineering character.

One of the points on which there is a wide difference between the Moorish representatives and the other members of the Committee is the question of drilling and maintaining discipline in the police force, which the French Commandant is endeavouring to restrict to the European officers, to the entire exclusion of the Moorish officers, even going so far, so Cid Guebbas stated to me, as to call into

question the right of the Minister of War or a deputy appointed by him to have any voice in the matter, although that right is recognized by Article 4 of the Act of Algeciras.

A second point on which a good deal of friction appears to have occurred is that of the uniform for the police. Cid Guebbas told me that the Committee came prepared with a model uniform, which he said had a striking resemblance to an Algerian uniform, and which he refused to accept without reference to the Sultan, as he considers that His Majesty has a perfect right to a voice in the decision of this matter, and a specimen was sent to Fez for His Majesty's inspection. It appears, however, that the Sultan disapproved of the colour and certain other details, and sent instructions that he wished the uniforms to be red and of a pattern already furnished, and of which a certain supply is available for immediate distribution. The French Commandant, on hearing of His Majesty's decision, appears to have made some sarcastic remark about the choice of a red uniform, which he said is only used by the English. Cid Guebbas answered that that colour had been chosen by His Majesty because it had been in use in the Moorish Army for very many years, and would therefore be less likely to attract attention or lend colour to the idea, which is prevalent amongst the natives, that the country is being taken over by Europeans, whereas an innovation in this respect might do so and lead to further troubles.

A report of this incident was, Cid Guebbas said, drawn up by the Committee for submission to the Corps Diplomatique, with a model of the uniform proposed by the French Commandant.

Cid Guebbas told me the foregoing in confidence, and asked me if it would be possible for me to give a hint in the proper quarter of the difficulties that are being put in his way by the French Commandant. His position in this matter is, he assures me, a very delicate one, as he has many enemies at Court who would make every attempt to discredit him in the eyes of the Sultan, should he fail to carry out the wishes of His Majesty.

I took an occasion to mention this matter incidentally, but without entering into details, to my French colleague, who said that it was on his instruction that the French officer had been unyielding. They had encountered from the outset so much obstinacy and such dilatory proceedings on the part of the Minister of War. that he had considered it advisable to instruct the officer in question to be very firm.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[17773] No. 142.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 1.)

(No. 157. Confidential.) *Tangier, May* 21, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 148 of the 15th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a prospectus of the "Compagnie Générale des Télégraphes Marocains" which has been furnished to me by M. Popp. I have communicated a copy of this prospectus to Mr. Spratt, the representative of the Eastern Telegraph Company.

There appears to be some hitch about the co-operation of the German and Spanish Companies.

I understand that Dr. Rosen is now not enthusiastic about the participation of a German Company, and states that M. Popp's father was connected with commercial enterprises with some German firms, which proved unsatisfactory to the latter.

The principal shareholders of the "Compañía Trasatlántica," which was to have joined the International Company on behalf of Spanish interests, is also holding back, but M. Popp declares that he has other Spanish Companies in view ready to join him should the "Compañía Trasatlántica" withdraw.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 142.

PROSPECTUS OF THE "COMPAGNIE GÉNÉRALE DES TÉLÉGRAPHES MAROCAINS."

Société Anonyme. Capital: 1,500,000 fr.

Siège social à Tanger (Maroc).

(En formation.)

Note sur la Télégraphie sans Fil au Maroc.

LE Maroc ne possède encore aucun moyen de correspondance rapide et régulière, aucun câble, aucun réseau de fil aériens. D'autre part, la poste est soumise à des vicissitudes particulières par l'insécurité des routes suivies par les "rekkas" et par la difficulté de la navigation sur les côtes Marocaines. Il en résulte que le Maroc est, au point de vue de possibilités de correspondre, un des pays des plus primitifs et dépourvus qui soient au monde. Cependant de nombreuses colonies Européennes sont installées depuis la Méditerranée jusque sur l'Atlantique, dans les huit ports ouverts au commerce. Ces colonies, exclusivement composées de négociants, voient les plus sérieux obstacles s'opposer à leur activité, car elles se trouvent être, entre elles, séparées par de longues distances, et souvent privées des moyens de communiquer.

Une organisation télégraphique s'impose donc, mais *a priori* doit être rejeté le réseau de fils aériens que les troubles permanents et que l'ignorance des populations n'autorisent pas.

Il convenait donc d'utiliser la télégraphie sans fil et il suffisait pour le début d'installer les postes dans les ports où l'activité économique est la plus intense, c'est-à-dire à Tanger, Casablanca, Saffi, et Mogador, l'avenir réservant d'étendre le réseau à Laraiche, Rabat, Mazagan, Tétouan, Fez, et Marrakech.

L'exposé qui suit ne se rapporte donc qu'à ces quatre premiers postes.

D'après les dernières statistiques, le commerce annuel est—

	Fr.
Pour Tanger	15,000,000
„ Casablanca	15,000,000
„ Saffi	7,000,000
„ Mogador	14,000,000

Ces chiffres, qui sont sensiblement les mêmes depuis plusieurs années, ne sauraient être considérés comme définitifs, étant donné le mouvement grandissant de l'immigration Européenne au Maroc et les intérêts financiers de plus en plus multipliés.

La population actuelle de ces ports est de 45,000 habitants à Tanger, 30,000 à Casablanca, 10,000 à Saffi, et 22,000 à Mogador.

La correspondance de port à port n'est pas la seule qu'il faut envisager. Il faut en effet prévoir la quantité de navires passant au large, par le Détroit de Gibraltar, qu'ils viennent de la Méditerranée, qu'ils viennent de l'Atlantique.

Il est donc permis de supposer que les navires venant du Brésil, de La Plata, du Sénégal, du Congo, de l'Afrique Australe, &c., se muniront de postes de télégraphie sans fil, en correspondance avec la côte occidentale du Maroc. Or, il est utile de remarquer qu'il y a environ trente-cinq Compagnies de Navigation se dirigeant dans l'Atlantique Sud qui pourront, environ sept jours avant leur arrivée à la hauteur du Détroit de Gibraltar, entrer en communication avec le poste installé à Saffi, et cela d'autant plus facilement que tous les navires allant vers le nord vont reconnaître le Cap Cantin.

(A titre d'indication, les recettes provenant des navires avec le poste du Cap Lizard en 1902 se sont élevées à 75,000 fr., depuis lors ils sont en progression notable, et d'après les renseignements fournis par le Commandant Santelli, ancien Inspecteur de la Compagnie Transatlantique Française, les recettes des postes de télégraphie sans fil établis sur nos paquebots trans-Atlantiques (Hâvre–New York) varient suivant la saison de 300 à 1,200 fr. par voyage et par paquebot. Il est à remarquer que ce poste du Cap Lizard ne dessert que les lignes des États-Unis et du Canada, tandis que les postes du Maroc desservent toutes les lignes de l'Atlantique Sud.)

Dans l'exposé financier qui suit ne sont envisagées que les communications de port à port, les recettes des communications maritimes n'intervenant qu'à titre de mémoire.

Considérant le commerce de ces ports et le prix relativement peu élevé des dépêches, il n'est pas exagéré de prévoir qu'il s'expédira journellement un minimum de cinquante dépêches de Tanger, vingt-cinq dépêches de Casablanca, dix dépêches de Saffi, et vingt dépêches de Mogador.

EXPOSÉ FINANCIER.

Capital.

	Fr.	Fr.
Capital	1,500,000	
Apports en actions (Article 6 des Statuts) ..	250,000	
A souscrire en espèces	1,250,000	1,250,000
FRAIS DE PREMIER ÉTABLISSEMENT.		
Achat et remboursement des quatre postes ..	250,000	
Frais de montage de ces quatre postes ..	30,000	
Frais divers d'installation du siège social, &c. ..	10,000	
Frais de constitution .. .. (environ)	10,000	
	300,000	300,000
Reste disponible en caisse espèces ..	..	950,000

Le premier quart versé au moment de la constitution définitive de la Compagnie, après paiement des frais de premier établissement, laissera en caisse 75,000 fr., qui seront suffisants pour faire face aux dépenses courantes de la Compagnie.

L'appel des autres quarts ne se fera donc qu'au moment où la Compagnie installera les autres postes prévus.

Frais d'Exploitation.

Dépenses annuelles.

		Fr.	Fr.
Poste de Tanger ..	2 télégraphistes mécaniciens	6,000	
	1 apprenti télégraphiste indigène	1,200	
	3 gardiens du poste indigène	500	
	Production de l'énergie électrique, essence, huile, chiffons (mot., 12 h.p.)	3,000	
	Entretien du poste et divers	2,400	
		13,100	13,100
Poste de Casablanca ..	2 télégraphistes mécaniciens	6,000	
	1 apprenti télégraphiste indigène	1,200	
	1 gardien du poste indigène	500	
	Production de l'énergie électrique, essence, huile, chiffons (mot., 10 h.p.)	2,600	
	Entretien du poste et divers	2,400	
	Un bureau en ville	1,200	
	1 indigène employé de bureau	1,200	
	1 indigène porteur de dépêches	500	
		15,600	15,600
Poste de Saffi	Mêmes frais qu'à Casablanca	..	15,600
Poste de Mogador ..	2 télégraphistes mécaniciens	6,000	
	1 apprenti télégraphiste indigène	1,200	
	1 gardien porteur de dépêches	800	
	Production de l'énergie électrique essence, huile, chiffons (mot., 4·5 h.p.)	800	
		8,800	8,800

		Fr.	Fr.
Administration, Direction ..	Loyer, impôts, éclairage, téléphone	6,000	
	Comptabilité, correspondance	8,000	
	Inspecteur-Général des Postes	5,400	
	Frais divers, imprimés, voyages	6,000	
	Sous-Directeur	10,000	
	Directeur-Général	20,000	
		55,400	55,400
	Total des dépenses	..	108,500

P.S.—Il est bon de remarquer que les frais d'administration se répartissent au début sur une exploitation de quatre postes seulement, tandis qu'ils resteront les mêmes sans s'augmenter dans l'avenir, lorsque la Compagnie exploitera tous les postes qu'elle se propose d'installer.

Recettes.

Tarif des Dépêches.—0·75 Hassani par mot, avec minimum de 10 mots par dépêche. Chaque télégramme donnera donc une recette de 7·50 Hassani.

En prévoyance au moins 105 télégrammes par jour, partant de tous les postes, comme je l'indique précédemment, nous aurons une recette journalière de 105 × 7·50 = 787·50 Hassani, soit par année 787·50 × 360 = 283,500 Hassani. En réduisant en francs au cours moyen de 1·50 nous aurons—

	Fr.
Recettes des communications de terre	189,000
Recettes des communications en mer	Mémoire
Recettes en francs	189,000

Résumé.

	Fr.
Recettes	189,000
Dépenses	108,500
Bénéfice	80,500

Note sur la Constitution de la Compagnie.—Extrait des Statuts.

Objet de la Société.—Création et exploitation de tous postes et réseaux télégraphiques au Maroc.

Dénomination.—" Compagnie Générale des Télégraphes Marocains."

Durée.—Cinquante-cinq années.

Capital.—1,500,000 fr., divisé en 1,500 actions de 1,000 fr. chacune. Ce capital est divisé en quatre parts égales à souscrire par l'Allemagne, l'Angleterre, l'Espagne, et la France.

Chaque part à souscrire est donc de 375,000 fr.

Apports.—M. Henri Popp apporte: Terrains clôturés, maison, fers pour monter trois pylônes de 55 mètres, six de 50 mètres, et un de 40 mètres, matériel et appareils complets pour quatre postes de télégraphie sans fil à monter à Tanger, Casablanca, Saffi, et Mogador.

En remboursement et comme paiement de ces apports, il sera versé à M. Henri Popp, ès-qualités, le jour de la constitution définitive de la Société, 250,000 fr. en espèces. En rémunération de ses frais d'études, comme promoteur de l'entreprise et comme fondateur de la Société, il sera en outre remis à M. Henri Popp 250 actions entièrement libérées de la Compagnie Générale des Télégraphes Marocains.

Ces 250 actions s'appliqueront à la part Française, qui ne pourra donc souscrire que 125 actions.

Actions en Numéraires.—Sont payables: un quart à la constitution de la Société, le surplus en vertu de délibérations du Conseil.

Ces versements du quart doivent être faits à la Banque d'État du Maroc.

Conseil d'Administration.—Composé de huit membres; deux Allemands, deux Anglais, deux Espagnols, et deux Français. Un de ces deux Français sera M. Henri Popp, qui est nommé statutairement.

Le Conseil aura les pouvoirs les plus étendus pour l'administration de la Société.

M. Henri Popp sera nommé Directeur-Général de la Compagnie.

Le Conseil nommera son Président et son Vice-Président.

Bénéfices.—Seront répartis: (1) 5 pour cent à la réserve conformément à la loi; (2) intérêt de 5 pour cent sur les sommes dont les actions sont libérées; (3) après ce prélèvement il sera alloué 10 pour cent au Conseil; (4) le surplus sera distribué aux actions.

Cette Compagnie sera constituée en conformité de l'Acte approuvé par les Légations d'Allemagne, d'Angleterre, d'Espagne, et de France, et les Statuts font mention de tous les engagements pris dans cette Acte.

(Signé) HENRI POPP.

Mai 1907.

[17774]

No. 143.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 1.)

(No. 158.)

Tangier, May 24, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 154 of the 21st instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida, reporting that his German colleague had received more satisfactory news from Marakesh, and that he had heard from Mr. Vice-Consul Spinney, of Mazagan, that Mr. Lennox, who is now at that port, proposed to return to Marakesh if the Germans are remaining there.

All Europeans have now left Marakesh except the Germans, who are believed to have received instructions not to leave unless absolutely necessary and at the last possible moment.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 143.

Consul Madden to Mr. G. Lowther.

Dar-al-Baida, May 20, 1907.

Sir,

THE latest news received to-day from Morocco City, so the German Consul tells me, is that matters are quiet in the town, and the Viceroy, Mulai Hafid, has informed the German Consular Agent that he can protect foreigners.

The Germans had, at the time of writing, no intention to leave the city, and it appears that a tribal meeting is projected for the 27th instant, to discuss current affairs. At the same time the tribe of Rahamna is stated to be divided into two parties, each holding contrary opinions on present topics in those parts.

The Vice-Consul at Mazagan informs me that Mr. Lennox proposes to return to Morocco city to look after the business, if, on his arrival at Mazagan, where he is apparently expected, the Germans are still proposing to remain there, and asking me if he should be allowed to return.

I have replied to Mr. Vice-Consul Spinney that, in my opinion, Mr. Lennox must be the best judge as to returning or the contrary, but that if the Germans are remaining, and if Mr. Lennox feels himself as secure in Morocco City as they do, I presume he should be allowed to consult his own wishes in the matter. But that no unnecessary risk should be run, and that Mr. Lennox must take Mr. Spinney's advice as to the safety of the roads.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. M. MADDEN.

P.S.—The German Consul told me also that M. Lassallas, agent of the Compagnie Marocaine, had quitted Morocco City. I understand he was the only French subject remaining there.

A. M. M.

[17775] No. 144.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 1.)

(No. 159.)

Tangier, May 24, 1907.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a letter addressed to His Majesty's Consul at Dar-el-Baïda by Mr. Hunot, Vice-Consul at Saffi, stating his belief that Mulai Hafid will be proclaimed Sultan by the southern tribes.

Mr. Hunot has resided at Saffi for a great number of years, and is on intimate terms with the influential Moors of the district, both official and private. Considerable weight must therefore attach to his opinion on such matters.

On the other hand, no news has yet reached the French Minister or myself from any other quarter to confirm the information communicated by Mr. Hunot.

Should all the southern tribes unite in proclaiming Mulai Hafid, the situation would become serious, for the Sultan and his Ministers are unpopular in the northern districts also, and would find it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to cope with the situation. It is to be apprehended, too, that the movement would have an anti-Christian character, as well as being directed against the Sultan himself and his Ministers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 144.

Vice-Consul Hunot to Consul Madden.

Saffi, May 20, 1907.

Dear Mr. Madden,

IT has come to my knowledge from a source worthy of credence that Mulai Hafid intends to have himself proclaimed Sultan. He is reported to have got possession of three Shereefian letters ordering his arrest, and no doubt several attempts have been made with a view of arresting him; this last attempt was to be by Belghazi. He has been approached by nearly all the Houz tribes—Showia Doqualla, Rahamna, Amtooga, and several other influential tribes. Kaïd Aissa, it appears, is the only Kaïd who has not given his consent to the Proclamation, and he is reported to be wavering in his loyalty, and will be obliged to follow.

There is to be a meeting of the Rahamnas at Ben Grier, and they will be joined by several of the principal tribes, and from thence it is said they will go direct to Morocco and release all the prisoners arrested on account of the assassination of Dr. Mauchamp. Mulai Hafid has sent the intercepted letters to the Court, and it is said that he has written demanding the immediate dismissal of the Sultan's Ministers, and has declared that within fifteen days the said prisoners will be released, and that he, as well as the Rahamna and other tribes, will have no communication with the French. It is said also that some wealthy Jews and others have promised Mulai Hafid financial assistance. From Soos to Showia all the Chiefs of the various tribes have consented to proclaim Mulai Hafid, excepting Aissa, who, I believe, will join ultimately. Belghazi is still encamped near the town and cannot move; his soldiers will likely join Mulai Hafid's men. The "Jeanne d'Arc" is anchored in the bay here. The French are boycotted in Morocco City; great excitement in the latter place. I believe that Mulai Hafid will be proclaimed by the Houz tribes.

Young locusts doing considerable damage to the late grain crops.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) G. HUNOT.

[17776] No. 145.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 1.)

(No. 160.)

Tangier, May 24, 1907.

Sir,

One of the demands made by the French Minister in connection with the murder of Dr. Mauchamp was that a stop be put to the supply of arms to Sheikh Ma-el-Aineen for distribution to the people in Mauretania for use against the French. It was at one time contemplated to send the French cruiser "Jeanne d'Arc" to Cape Juby to seize a quantity of arms that had been sent there for the Sheikh, but the assurances

in this respect contained in the last Moorish note were considered satisfactory, and it was decided to take no action for the present at any rate.

The Vice-Consul at Mogador reports that when the "Jeanne d'Arc" visited that port a short time since, two special couriers were despatched by the Moorish authorities to Cape Juby, with instructions that the arms and ammunition recently sent there for Sheikh Ma-el-Aineen were not to be delivered to him if they had not already been handed over.

The French Minister, however, tells me that he has himself received no information as to the arms having actually been stopped.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[17778] No. 146.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 1.)

(No. 162.)

Tangier, May 25, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to your despatch No. 64 of the 27th ultimo, and to my telegram No. 45 of the 20th instant, and your reply of the 23rd instant, I have the honour to report that, at a plenary meeting held to-day, the inclosed Declaration was read and adhered to by all the foreign Representatives present and the Moorish Delegates, as giving satisfaction to the conflicting points of view raised regarding the interpretation of Articles 73 and 117 and following of the Act of Algeciras.

The Belgian Representative, however, raised the question as to whether there should not be inserted a clause forbidding the expropriated manufacturers from naming themselves or other local manufacturers as being directly interested. I objected to a reserve of this nature, on the ground that the experts named by Makhzen might also be considered as interested, and further that the expropriated manufacturers could hardly be expected to incur the great expense of obtaining expert opinion from Europe. Finally it was decided to insert the sentence, "Les experts devront être assermentés," and the Declaration was agreed to and entered in the *procès-verbal* of the meeting.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 146.

Declaration.

DANS la séance du 13 Avril, la question de la nomination des experts, chargés de statuer sur les indemnités dues aux fabricants de tabacs, expropriés pour l'établissement des monopoles, a été incidemment posée par M. le Ministre de France. Les Délégués Chérifiens ont fait connaître que le Makhzen avait, aux termes de l'Article 117 de l'Acte d'Algésiras, le droit de nommer librement trois experts, trois autres étant désignés par les intéressés.

M. le Ministre d'Autriche-Hongrie a donné lecture des Articles 73, 116 et suivants de l'Acte d'Algésiras. Il les a expliqués et commentés en vue d'établir le bien-fondé de la thèse soutenue par les Marocains. L'opinion exposée par la Délégation Chérifienne et appuyée par MM. les Ministres d'Autriche-Hongrie et des Pays-Bas n'a pas été contredite, et l'Assemblée, sans se prononcer formellement, a paru se ranger à leur avis.

D'ordre de son Gouvernement, M. le Ministre d'Angleterre est revenu sur la question des experts et a demandé à ce qu'elle fût à nouveau examinée, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique croyant devoir donner une autre interprétation à l'ensemble des Articles précités. Par conséquent, à la séance plénière du 8 Mai, l'Assemblée a procédé à un nouvel examen de la question. Il a été reconnu que les termes de l'Article 73 ne s'accordaient pas avec l'Article 117.

D'après l'Article 73, les experts, dont le nombre n'est pas fixé, doivent être désignés par le Makhzen, d'accord avec le Corps Diplomatique.

D'après l'Article 117, six experts sont choisis—trois par le propriétaire, trois par l'Administration qui poursuit l'expropriation—le Corps Diplomatique n'intervenant que, s'il y a désaccord et arbitrage, pour nommer le tiers arbitre.

Il résulte des textes précités que, si l'on s'en tient à une interprétation isolée de chaque Article, deux opinions contradictoires peuvent être soutenues avec la même force.

Ainsi que l'ont exposé MM. les Ministres des Pays-Bas et d'Autriche-Hongrie, on doit trouver l'explication de ces différences dans les faits suivants. Après avoir statué sur la question du monopole des tabacs, la Conférence d'Algésiras, ayant par la suite réglé les formalités de la procédure d'expropriation pour cause d'utilité publique, a jugé à propos d'appliquer cette procédure à l'expropriation des fabriques de tabac, sans se rendre compte qu'il y avait lieu de mettre en harmonie les rédactions.

Dans sa séance du 8 Mai l'Assemblée a décidé de ne pas s'arrêter plus longtemps à la discussion des textes et, pour répondre aux intentions manifestées par la Conférence, d'étudier les moyens de les concilier dans la pratique.

La proposition suivante a été faite par le Ministre de France. A défaut de l'entente amiable prévue entre les fabricants et le Makhzen à l'Article 73, le Makhzen désignera trois experts et chaque fabricant exproprié en désignera trois autres. Les choix ainsi opérés seront soumis à l'agrément du Corps Diplomatique et du Makhzen.

Les experts devront être assermentés.

L'approbation ayant été officiellement donnée sur ces choix, l'Article 73 aura reçu complète satisfaction. D'autre part, on rentrera en même temps dans la donnée exacte de l'Article 117. Dès lors la procédure de l'expropriation instituée par les Article 117 et suivants suivra normalement son cours.

[17799] No. 147.

Board of Trade to Foreign Office.—(*Received June* 1.)

Board of Trade, May 31, 1907.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Board of Trade to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 14th and 24th instant, with their inclosures, relative to the participation by the British tobacco trade in the proposed tobacco monopoly in Morocco.

In reply, I am to state that the Board have ascertained that it is quite possible that the class of business in question might be undertaken by the British-American Tobacco Company, of Cecil Chambers, 86, Strand, W.C., which possesses factories at Bristol employing some 2,000 hands, and is also established in certain foreign countries and British possessions. The Board understand that the Imperial Tobacco Company of Great Britain and Ireland, who are under agreement with the British-American Company not to export tobacco from this country, are possessed of a very considerable financial interest in the latter concern.

I am to add that the official of the British-American Company with whom the Board have been in communication is Mr. H. Cunliffe Owen, of Cecil Chambers, the Deputy Chairman, who would be willing to give any further information with regard to his Company.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR WILSON FOX.

[17878] No. 148.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 1.)

(No. 49.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, June* 1, 1907.

THE post of engineer, under Article 66 of the Algeciras Act, was to-day awarded by the Diplomatic Corps to the French candidate, no vote being taken.

As the German Chargé d'Affaires had not as yet received his instructions, the consideration of the candidature of the Spaniard for the post of assistant engineer was postponed.

[18081] No. 149.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 3.)

(No. 164.) *Tangier, May* 28, 1907.

Sir,

THE question of the appointment of the engineer to be named under Article 66 of the Act of Algeciras has for months past been engaging the attention of the foreign Representatives here, but no vote has been taken on the subject, there being a general desire that the matter should, if possible, be settled by mutual agreement. The view of the French Minister has always been that the selection should be made by the foreign Representatives here, and that this choice should be endorsed by the Sultan, though the actual wording of the Article could readily lend itself to another interpretation.

A French candidate for the post has for many months been in the field, and in July last a Belgian candidate was, as you are aware, put forward ostensibly at the request of the Sultan. After some exchange of views, during which the Belgian Government appeared to be indisposed to withdraw their candidate, it was understood that the merits of the candidate of the Great Powers would be considered first. In the meantime the Spanish Government had put forward a candidate as "ingénieur adjoint."

The French Minister was disinclined to go to a vote on the subject until absolutely assured of a good majority in favour of the French engineer. The intentions of the Netherlands and United States' Ministers and Italian Chargé d'Affaires as to their votes appeared doubtful, although the French Government had received favourable assurances from Washington. Similar assurances several times reached the French Government regarding the vote of the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, but he persistently maintained that he had no instructions, and as far as it was possible to ascertain, he had been directed to do all in his power to conciliate the conflicting parties and avoid a vote. Reports also reached the French Government that the German Government was no longer interested in the matter, but Dr. Rosen categorically denied the truth of these reports.

A few days ago, however, the French Government telegraphed to M. Regnault that definite instructions had been sent to the Italian Chargé d'Affaires to vote in favour of the French candidate. This satisfied M. Regnault, who was thus able to anticipate a majority of four, or at least three, in his favour, and it was decided to hold a meeting yesterday to settle the question.

On the previous night, however, at a late hour, the Italian Chargé d'Affaires requested further postponement of the meeting on the plea that he had not received his instructions. It is not yet possible to ascertain the real reasons for this request for postponement, but there are indications that Signor Tittoni still hopes to induce Germany to withdraw her opposition to the French candidate, and thus dispense with a vote and the necessity of Italy declaring herself as opposed to Germany in this question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[17979] No. 150.

Sir F. Lascelles to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 3.)

(No. 246.) *Berlin, May* 30, 1907.

Sir,

THE "National Zeitung" has recently published an article reviewing the position of affairs in Morocco and discussing the effect which the Resolutions of the Algeciras Conference have produced in that country. It says that not even the most sanguine diplomatist can maintain that during the year which has elapsed since the conclusion of the Conference the state of the country has become more tranquil and peaceful, or that the safety of the Europeans resident there has become more assured. On paper an agreement was soon reached; the Sultan accepted the Final Act of the Conference, and it was signed by the Powers. The Bank of Morocco, with a capital internationally subscribed, was established in Paris; Switzerland appointed, and the Sultan confirmed the appointment, of Police Inspectors in the larger Moorish ports, but the establishment of a police force in Tangier, Laraish, and Mogador is still

awaited; disturbance and rebellion still goes on among the natives; the dissolution of all order in the State still continues, and the relations between France and the Sultan are getting more seriously strained.

Both sides are to blame. All along the frontier between Algeria and Morocco the Moors have plundered French caravans, attacked outposts, committed robberies and plundered inhabitants of French territory, while the French for the last ten years have gradually but slowly advanced towards the oases in the Western Sahara. No concealment has been made of the French desire to accomplish the peaceful penetration of Morocco, and this has roused the mistrust of a fanatical people, who for 1,200 years have nursed a religious hatred and a race feud with Europeans.

The Conference tried to allay this bad feeling by recognizing the independence and integrity of Morocco and by throwing the country open to the trade of all nations. The nervousness of the French and the recklessness of the natives have frustrated this object. As early as last December the French were forced to make a naval demonstration, in conjunction with the Spaniards, in consequence of the outrages of Raisuli and his people at Tangier and Arzila. After a few weeks the ships were withdrawn, since the danger to Europeans had been grossly exaggerated, and a Shereefian army attacked and drove Raisuli's band to the mountains. Unfortunately the tranquillity which this proceeding brought not only to the foreign colonies in Morocco but also to the French in their relations with the Makhzen did not last long. On the 22nd March the French doctor, M. Mauchamp, was murdered by the excited populace in Marakesh. The murdered man had been two years in Marakesh, where he conducted a hospital for the Moors, but, in spite of the benefits he conferred on them, he was not popular. He was too fond of parading his contempt for the natives and his French patriotism. He was considered a traitor and a spy, and this cost him his life. After all that had gone before, the French Government could not pass this over in silence. A demand was made for the surrender of the murderer and the dismissal of the Basha, who had done nothing to check the crime, an indemnity, and security against similar deeds in future. To bring the serious nature of the affair home to the Sultan they occupied Ujda. There they still remain, and it becomes more doubtful if they ever will go. The Sultan has, it is true, promised to accede to all the French demands, and a letter has been read in the mosques of Fez condemning the murderer; but the people in Marakesh refused the new Basha appointed by the Sultan; the tribes are arming themselves against the Sultan's adherents, and the Europeans have been forced to make a hasty retreat to the coast.

To the Moors the Resolutions of the Conference are a thorn in the flesh, and it is not to be expected that they will do anything to open the treasures of their land to the Europeans, whom they regard with envy, hatred, and malice, nor will they take any steps to safeguard Europeans in their towns, since, were they to do so, the foreign colonies that they hate so much would increase and multiply. They are warlike, predatory, brave, and reckless, and do not shrink from the prospect of a conflict with the French. It is true that, in spite of all the signs of trouble, a general outburst is still far distant, since the disagreements and enmities between the various tribes are sufficient to prevent common action on the part of the natives; but the time demands that Spain and France should proceed to the fulfilment of the mandate of Europe by the establishment of a police force in the ports and the repression of the rebellious spirit of the Moors.

I have, &c.
(Signed) FRANK C. LASCELLES.

[18111] **No. 151.**

Mr. Akers-Douglas to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 3.)

(No. 96. Confidential.)
(Paraphrase of Despatch.)

Rome, May 31, 1907.

Sir,

SIGNOR TITTONI was not at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs when I called there yesterday, and I was therefore unable to see him, but I am informed by the Russian Ambassador that the question of the appointment of the Engineer in Morocco —a difficulty which is by no means surmounted—is causing great embarrassment to

the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs. He had founded hopes on the attitude of the German Foreign Office, which have been disappointed, and the Belgian Engineer still remains a candidate for the post.

At the present moment, M. Barrère, the French Ambassador, is absent in Paris.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
(Signed) A. AKERS-DOUGLAS.

[18311] **No. 152.**

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 4.)

(No. 50.)
(Telegraphic.) P,

Tangier, June 4, 1907.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 49 of the 1st instant.

The Diplomatic Corps accepted unanimously to-day the Spanish candidate for the post of assistant engineer.

[17799] **No. 153.**

Foreign Office to Mr. H. Cunliffe Owen.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 7, 1907.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you the inclosed copy of the General Act of Algeciras, 1906, and to draw your special attention to Articles 73 and 74 with regard to the creation by the Shereefian Government of a tobacco monopoly in Morocco. The Moorish authorities, who are anxious for the establishment of this monopoly at the earliest possible date, prepared a "cahier des charges" some two months ago, which was subsequently cancelled owing to the irregularities which it contained, and a fresh "cahier" which is now being drawn up is expected to be ready shortly.

Meanwhile, the French Government having expressed a wish for British participation with the French and other groups in forming an international Syndicate to tender for a share in this monopoly, Sir E. Grey consulted His Majesty's Minister at Tangier as to whether any of the British firms engaged in the local tobacco trade were Sufficiently qualified by their standing to take up the British share, but received a reply to the effect that no local firm was in a position to compete, that several Syndicates were already in course of formation, but that a British Syndicate, provided they could obtain the necessary information on the spot with regard to consumption of tobacco, cost of manufacture, &c., might well compete with those Syndicates already in the field. Mr. Lowther added that if there was a question of the formation of a new and important Syndicate which British capitalists could join on equal terms, he could only consider it advantageous for them to join such a Syndicate.

On inviting the opinion of the Board of Trade as to whether a group of British capitalists could be found to tender for a share in this monopoly, Sir E. Grey has been led to understand that the British-American Tobacco Company might be willing to entertain the idea of participating in the proposed international Syndicate.

Should this be the case, I am to suggest that you should at once place yourself in communication with Mr. Gerard Lowther, His Majesty's Minister at Tangier, and through him with the German, French, and Spanish participants, with the object of arriving at an agreement as to the terms on which you could join. It would, in Sir E. Grey's opinion, also be advisable that you should lose no time in sending out an agent to Tangier to obtain more precise information in regard to the various details of the monopoly.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ERIC BARRINGTON.

[19108] No. 154.

Consul Macleod to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 10.)

(No. 6.)

Fez, May 25, 1907.

Sir,

IN my despatch No. 4 of the 16th I mentioned that Kaïd Dris Beni Aish, against his will, and largely through the influence of the Tazzy family, had been ordered to proceed to Oujdah to supervise the carrying out of the Franco-Moorish (1902) Frontier Agreement.

In the meantime the attitude of the tribes in Southern Morocco has become much more threatening. Kaïd Dris Beni Aish then succeeded in convincing the Sultan that the most urgent thing to be done was for the Court to proceed thither as soon as possible. For such an expedition the services of Kaïd Dris—who is the principal intermediary between the Sultan and the Governor of Tribes, and through whom tribal contingents are summoned—are indispensable.

If the Sultan goes south Kaïd Dris Beni Aish therefore remains with the Court.

This involves a further success for him against the Tazzy family, inasmuch as the highly lucrative post of Master of Works and Collector of Local Taxes at Fez, held by the Sultan's chief favourite, Hadj Omar Tazzy, is a local and not a Court office.

Hadj Omar, if the Court moves, appears likely to have to choose between remaining at Fez—and thus losing many of the advantages of being a favourite—and, by going with the Court, forfeiting many of the profits of his stewardship.

Kaïd Dris Beni Aish has apparently used the situation very adroitly to rid himself of an unpleasant task, and to put his chief rival in a still more embarrassing position.

So far it is not known whether any one else has been selected for the duties Kaïd Dris Beni Aish was to have done at Oujdah.

In addition to the other reasons for the Court's moving, there is of course the very important consideration that the Sultan may perhaps be able to collect large sums of money from those rich southern tribes, who have paid practically no taxes these six years.

In my despatch No. 5 I estimated that the Sultan had about 2,000 to 2,500 soldiers available for his expedition to the south.

The Minister of War, Sid Guebbas, is still at Tangier; and what may be called the "War Department" Office here is in charge of his son, a lad of twenty-three or so, of no special ability. The "War Department" affirmed that some 5,000 (*i.e.*, the number existing on paper, and paid for) soldiers were available. On the 22nd instant the Sultan had the soldiers paraded, and counted them himself. Great efforts were made by the Department to muster the number alleged to exist, as much as 4 pesetas (say 2*s.*) each being paid to ordinary men to appear on this occasion. Nevertheless the number was still considerably less than the Sultan had been led to expect, and His Majesty was dissatisfied with the quality as well as the numbers of the men who appeared, and ordered another parade for the following day. On this occasion Dr. Verdon was directed to examine the men—except those under the French officers—and to reject all whom he thought unfit.

Dr. Verdon has been kind enough to tell me the result. He took the chance to, approximately, count the men.

About 100 men have been under instruction by the German officers for some time. They were selected after a searching medical examination by Dr. Verdon, and have been, I am told, very thoroughly drilled as infantry. There were about 700 allotted to the French officers, about a quarter of whom seemed old men, boys, or infirm men. These were not submitted to Dr. Verdon, and, the French military doctor being absent, were not examined medically.

About 2,800 men were now examined roughly by Dr. Verdon, and about 300 were rejected, mostly as suffering from chronic eye disease (conjunctivitis).

The number of soldiers available are thus:—

Under German instruction	100
Under French instruction	700
Remainder—unallotted	2,500
Nominal total	3,300

Allowing for men hired for the day, the real total of the remainder is probably about 2,250, all of whom will, I presume, be allotted to Kaïd Sir Harry Maclean for instruction.

The great majority of the men were, however, recruits, and have had no instruction whatever.

After the parade the Sultan issued orders that all these soldiers were in future to be paid by Europeans.

The German officers have for some time had the paying of their men. Those under the French officers are now to be paid by the latter, and the rest are to be paid by Dr. Verdon. Their pay is to be half a peseta per day, and is to be issued every three days. This sum is at present enough to buy sufficient food, and the men are clothed and lodged; but it is only about a third of what men can earn as harvesters. Already we hear constantly of groups of men deserting to go harvesting.

Owing to being irregularly and insufficiently paid, numbers of men desert also from the expeditions in various parts of the country. Groups of these deserters sometimes join the troops here, the authorities—glad to see men, no matter from where—asking no questions. As yet, however, no serious number of transport animals have been procured.

The general state of things hereabouts, I am happy to say, seems better than it has been for several years.

The crops are of unusual abundance, and wheat, barley, and food and fodder generally are cheaper than they have been for six years.

Barley, for instance, which on an average these six years has cost about 10*d.* a horsefeed, isnow down to 4*d.*, a price unknown in late years. Bread has fallen to 1*d.* for a loaf, for which an average price was about 2½*d.*, and all this notwithstanding the assembling of the Sultan's camp.

This cheapness has caused more general feeling of contentment than has obtained for several years.

The ingathering and threshing of this good harvest may be expected to keep the tribes busy during the next two months, and the plentifulness of food and fodder makes the present an unusually opportune time, economically, for the Sultan's expedition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. M. MACLEOD.

[18960] No. 155.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 10.)

(No. 165.)

Tangier, May 28, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 139 of the 10th instant, transmitting copy of a note addressed to Ben Sliman on behalf of British subjects seeking Mining Concessions, I have the honour to transmit copy of the reply received from his Excellency regarding the same, and stating that the Sultan has at present no intention of granting Concessions, but that due notice will be given of any decision in this direction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 155.

Abdelkrim-ben-Sliman to Mr. G. Lowther.

(After compliments.)

I RECEIVED you letter informing me that certain British subjects are making application for Concession to them for working mines in this country, and of your reply to them that this matter must await the issue of a Shereefian firman, as stipulated by the Act of Algeciras, and you request me to take note of this so that the said Shereefian firman may be issued in order that British subjects may put forward their tenders on this subject. I informed His Majesty of what you state

and he took note thereof, and he has instructed me to reply that His Majesty has not yet the intention to discuss the subject, and when he decides to do so he will make the necessary announcements, please God.

May you, &c.
(Signed) ABDELKRIM-BEN-SLIMAN.

3 *Rabia* II, 1325.

[18961] No. 156.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 10.)

(No. 166.)
Sir, *Tangier, May* 29, 1907.

MR. LENNOX arrived here to-day from Marakesh. He tells me that he does not anticipate anything serious in that district until after the harvest, that is in July, but that he is convinced in his own mind that nothing can then arrest a very serious movement, unless the Sultan moves from Fez to Rabat and employs the usual methods of showing his authority, namely, devastating the country of disloyal tribes.

Although unwilling to believe in Mulai Hafid's disloyalty, as he has always been his friend, Mr. Lennox is now brought to the belief that he is playing for his own hand, and that if the Sultan remains at Fez there can be no doubt of Mulai Hafid's success. Mr. Lennox is convinced that there is no leader amongst the Rahamna, and that that tribe, who are not even united, never would have dared to make a movement unless they had received encouragement from the Viceroy. Indeed there seems reason to believe that Mulai Hafid has had a share in the proceeds of the numerous caravan robberies, &c.

Mulai Hafid has always been considered here as a mild man, fond of reading and of mild pursuits and endowed with no character or energy. Mr. Lennox holds quite a different view of him, and says he is a man of some thirty-five years of age, full of ambition and vigour, and whose one idea is that nothing can be done without fighting. He says he has always declared himself as very anti-French, but has latterly received some presents from the French Government for services rendered, and Mr. Lennox does not know what his real feelings may now be. He has probably not yet decided into which channel to direct these feelings. Mr. Lennox attributes the murder of Doctor Mauchamp and the subsequent troubles to the want of energy of the Governor, Hadj Absalom-el-Warzazi. He described him as a man absolutely loyal, intelligent, and learned, but completely broken down in health and now devoid of all energy; and his son, whom he named as his deputy, seems to lack all the qualities necessary to deal with a turbulent population. The fact that the Viceroy and the Governor were never in accord, Mr. Lennox attributes to the loyalty of the Governor to his Sovereign.

Mr. Lennox, who represents large commercial interests, is prepared to return to Marakesh if the other foreigners are allowed to remain there. He was constantly obliged, at the instigation of the Governor, to close the store during the disturbances, and he anticipates that his principals will demand heavy damages. They are not even able to send their Jew semsar to Marakesh, all respectable Jews being now maltreated there.

In Mr. Lennox's opinion, the gradual dissatisfaction which has arisen amongst the southern tribes against the Sultan's rule has been caused by the selfish and interested rule of the Tazee group at Fez.

In reply to inquiries as to the effect produced on the population by the occupation of Ujda, Mr. Lennox said that he had anticipated that it would produce none, but that he had been impressed by the fact that, so far from the action of the French having inspired respect, it had only produced an irritating effect.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[18962] No. 157.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 10.)

(No. 167.)
Sir, *Tangier, May* 29, 1907.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a letter I have received from Robert A. Spinney and Son, of Mazagan, reporting that their manager in Morocco City had been compelled to close their premises and leave the town, and requesting me to take steps to hold the Moorish Government responsible for all the losses which they have incurred or may incur during the suspension of their business.

I venture to request you to be good enough to furnish me with instructions as to the reply I should send to Spinney and Son, and whether I should lay a claim before the Makhzen.

There is no doubt that during the period of excitement caused by the murder of Dr. Mauchamp, foreign subjects were frequently requested to close their stores and not leave their houses.

Subsequently the street guards were withdrawn, which rendered all business transactions for foreigners out of the question, and finally the Governor, in reply to inquiries on the part of Mr. Lennox, admitted that he was no longer able to provide the necessary protection for the lives of British subjects, who then left. There can thus be no doubt that the Moorish authorities did not afford the necessary protection. Whether they were in a position to do so may be a matter for discussion.

As it is very important that persons connected with business in Morocco City should now be enabled to return, provided they can do so with a guarantee on the part of the Makhzen of safety, I have addressed a note to Ben Sliman, requesting his Excellency to furnish me with such an assurance. A copy of this note is herewith inclosed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 157.

Messrs. R. Spinney and Son to Mr. G. Lowther.

Sir, *Mazagan, May* 14, 1907.

WE beg to call your Excellency's attention to the fact that the manager (Mr. Alan Lennox) of our Morocco City house has been compelled to close our premises and leave Marakesh, with other European residents, owing to the anti-European attitude of the native population. Since the murder of the late Dr. Mauchamp, it has been impossible for us to carry on our business at Marakesh, owing to the entire absence of any adequate measures being taken by the Moorish Government to deal with the situation.

In the circumstances we respectfully request your Excellency to take steps to hold the Moorish Government responsible for all losses we have incurred and may incur during the suspension of our business at Marakesh.

We are, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT SPINNEY AND SON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 157.

Mr. G. Lowther to Ben Sliman.

(After compliments.) *Tangier, May* 30, 1907 (17 *Rabia* II, 1325).

YOUR Excellency is aware of the condition of insecurity that has existed in the City of Morocco since the murder by the mob of Dr. Mauchamp, a condition that became so grave that the Governor of the town informed British subjects that he was unable to guarantee their safety. They were consequently compelled to quit the town. Your Excellency will realize that the dangerous condition of the town, and the departure therefrom of the agents of commercial houses, has entailed upon these latter a very considerable loss of business, a loss for which these merchants will expect to be indemnified by the Moorish Government. It is extremely desirable, both in the

interests of British commerce and in those of the Moorish Government, that a state of security should be restored in Marakesh. I understood that, in reply to a question recently put to the Viceroy of Marakesh by a foreign Consular Agent as to whether he was able to protect the lives of foreigners in that city, his Excellency replied in the affirmative, and I should be glad to receive from your Excellency a similar assurance, if you are able to give it, and a clear statement that British subjects can now return to Marakesh without danger to their lives and property.

May you, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[18963] No. 158.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 10.)

(No. 168.) *Tangier, May* 29, 1907.

Sir,

REFERRING to my despatch No. 48 of the 16th March, 1906, I have the honour to inform you that I have now received a reply from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to my letter of the 4th May expressing satisfaction at the arrival of Cid-el-Menebhi's wife.

In this letter his Excellency expresses the wish that His Majesty's Government and myself will spare no effort to bring about a settlement of the remaining conditions of the Agreement regarding El-Menebhi. His Majesty the Sultan had also instructed Kaïd Maclean, when he came to Tangier recently, to discuss the matter with me and to make an offer of 10,000*l.* as compensation for the fault committed by the Morocco City officials in entering Menebhi's houses in that town, while categorically denying that anything had been taken away by them. A letter was also addressed to me on the 16th March by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating that Kaïd Maclean had been deputed by His Majesty to effect a settlement of this case with me.

El-Menebhi would certainly refuse to accept this compromise, as he maintains he is entitled to compensation in full for the property he has lost, which he estimates at about 76,000*l.*, although it would be possible to induce him to accept a much smaller sum if his departure were not insisted on. Unfortunately, it is not possible to produce any proofs of the existence of the property claimed to have been lost beyond the statement of El-Menebhi, and reports received from Morocco City at the time to the effect that property was taken from his house there.

Being pressed by Kaïd Maclean, who is returning to Fez, for a reply to be given to the Sultan, I have sent him a statement of the case as it stands, and a suggestion that a proposal might be made by the Sultan to settle this question by some arrangement agreeable to both sides, starting from a basis of moderate compensation and non-insistence on El-Menebhi's departure from Tangier, as I am of opinion that the Moorish Government would find it very difficult at the present moment to find 86,000*l.* (which sum includes the 10,000*l.* promised by the Makhzen in the original Agreement for his journey money) to settle this claim and insist on his leaving the country .Moreover, El-Menebhi is not interesting himself in any way in the affairs of State, and to leave the country would be most distasteful and indeed ruinous to him.

Any specific offer made by the Sultan would, of course, be submitted by me to you before acceptance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[18964] No. 159.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 10.)

(No. 169.) *Tangier, June* 1, 1907.

Sir,

THE meeting for the consideration by the foreign Representatives of the candidates for the post of Engineer provided for under Article 66 of the Act of Algeciras, after many postponements, eventually took place to-day.

The Portuguese Minister as Doyen announced that there were two candidates for the post of Chief Engineer, a French and a Belgian; and one candidate, a Spaniard, for the post of Assistant Engineer, and if there was no objection he asked

that the claims of the one whose candidature had first been officially put forward, namely the French, should be considered.

The German Chargé d'Affaires abstained from expressing any opinion. The Austrian Minister agreed to the appointment, adding a declaration to the effect that the Austrian Government expressed its conviction that this choice offered all the necessary guarantees for impartiality, a copy of which I inclose herewith. The Belgian Minister stated that as his Government had put forward a candidate he could not vote for another, but that he had no objection to the consideration of the merits of the French candidate. The Netherland Minister abstained from giving any opinion, but all my other colleagues supported the French candidate, who was consequently accepted, and it was agreed to notify this decision to the Moorish Government, who would be asked to ratify it.

The question of the appointment of an Assistant Engineer then came on for discussion, several of my colleagues expressing the view that it was premature to discuss the question of the appointment of an Assistant Engineer until the Chief Engineer has assumed his duties and until the necessity for the existence of an Assistant Engineer had made itself felt. The German Chargé d'Affaires declared that he had no instructions to discuss the question of the Assistant Engineer. My French colleague pointed out that, for reasons of health or absence of the Chief Engineer, it was essential to have an Assistant Engineer, and, moreover, particularly so now, when many new works would have to be undertaken and his services would be specially useful.

After a lengthy exchange of views, six of the foreign Representatives declared that the necessity existed for the appointment, the other five Representatives abstaining from voting on the subject. The principle of the necessity for an Assistant Engineer was thus established.

The Spanish Minister then urged very strongly that a vote be taken on the candidate of his Government, his instructions being not to agree to any adjournment. To support this view appeared to me impossible, in view of the fact that the meeting which eventually took place to-day had so frequently been postponed, and it would be construed as a want of courtesy to decline to await the instructions which the German Chargé d'Affaires promised to ask for at once. I consequently urged that no vote be taken on this point. If my Spanish colleague had insisted, as he was most desirous of doing, in order to carry out the instructions of his Government to the letter, on pressing the question of adjournment to a vote, he would have found himself in the minority. He was eventually persuaded to agree that the meeting should be suspended pending the receipt of instructions to the German Chargé d'Affaires from Berlin.

I have sent a copy of this despatch to His Majesty's Ambassador in Madrid.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 159.

Declaration of Austro-Hungarian Minister.

"JE suis autorisé de donner mon vote pour l'Ingénieur proposé par M. le Ministre de France, tout en exprimant la conviction du Gouvernement Impérial et Royal que ce choix offrira toutes les garanties nécessaires à la libre concurrence des ressortissants des autres pays pour les travaux et services publics mis en adjudication, et que M. Porché, si chaudement recommandé, s'inspirera des principes et de l'esprit de la Convention d'Algésiras."

[19068] No. 160.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 10.)

(No. 171.) *Tangier, June* 3, 1907.

Sir,

KAÏD SIR HARRY MACLEAN was recently instructed by His Majesty the Sultan to arrange with Raisuli that the latter should proceed to Fez on the distinct assurance that no harm should come to him, and that he should be well treated, as is promised in the two letters of which I inclose herewith copies.

After some negotiation it was decided that Kaïd Maclean should meet Raisuli and discuss preliminaries, and that the latter should then proceed with Sir Harry to Fez. A meeting was arranged in a district called el-Sereef, some 75 miles from here and east of Alcazar, but after an hour's conversation it became clear that Raisuli insisted on imposing his own conditions, which were quite unacceptable. Sir H. Maclean demanded that Raisuli should first proceed to Fez and there discuss the terms. Raisuli objected to going, maintaining that neither the Sultan nor the Moorish Government could be trusted, and declaring that they would certainly find a means of playing him false. He demanded that all his property should be restored to him, and that he should be named Kaïd of all the districts round Tangier, including Arzila, and also that a European should be left in his hands while he sent his brother to Fez to negotiate the terms of his reappointment. The conditions proposed being quite unacceptable, the negotiations were broken off and Kaïd Maclean proceeded to Fez.

No doubt Raisuli is fully aware that if the Sultan carries out his present intention of proceeding to Rabat, all available troops will be required, and the army that is now watching the district south of Tetuan will be removed. This would give him the opportunity he requires of rousing the tribes in his favour again, and getting himself re-installed into power.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 160.

Firmans dated May 21, 1907.

(Translation.)

BE it known from this our letter that we have instructed our servant Kaïd Maclean, the Instructor, to bring the Taleb Hemd-er-Raisouli to our Shereefian Court under the fullest assurances of security . . . . . no evil shall reach him in his person, and all his affairs (*sic*) and whatever assurances of security and whatever promises of good treatment he may make to him, if he comes, may be accepted as trustworthy. Peace.

8*th Rabia II*, 1325 (May 21, 1907).

This is to inform the Taleb Hamed-ben-Mohammed-er-Raisouli that we renew the assurances of security already made to him by the Shereefian Firman, granting him the security ("Aman") of God and His Apostle and our Shereefian security, assuring him of good treatment on his coming to our Shereefian Court. We therefore instruct him to come to our Shereefian Court so that he may avail himself of God's favour and receive from us the benefits he desires. Our Shereefian order to this effect is issued this 8th Rabia II, 1325 (May 21, 1907).

[19386] No. 161.

British-American Tobacco Company to Foreign Office.—(*Received June* 12.)

Cecil Chambers, 86, *Strand*, *London*, *June* 11, 1907.

Sir,

I BEG to acknowledge receipt of, and to thank you for, your letter of the 7th instant with regard to the creation by the Shereefian Government of a tobacco monopoly in Morocco.

As a rule we are not prepared to enter into a participation in tobacco businesses unless we have control of the business, but we are addressing a letter, in accordance with your kind suggestion, to His Majesty's Minister at Tangier, inquiring upon what terms participation could be obtained.

I am, &c.
(Signed) H. CUNLIFFE OWEN.

[19857] No. 162.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 17.)

(No. 173.)

Tangier, *June* 4, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 169 of the 1st instant, I have the honour to report that at a meeting of the Diplomatic Corps to-day, the Spanish candidate, Señor Jaime Llorens, was unanimously adopted as the assistant engineer, provided for under Article 66 of the Act of Algeciras, and his name will be submitted to the Sultan for approval.

It was further decided that the first engineer should receive a salary of 20,000 fr. a-year and all duly certified travelling expenses, and be granted one month's leave of absence yearly, or two months after two years.

The assistant engineer will receive a salary of 10,000 fr. a-year, the other conditions being similar to those enjoyed by the first engineer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[19858] No. 163.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 17.)

(No. 174.)

Tangier, *June* 5, 1907.

Sir,

AS you are aware, for months past, during which the question of the appointment of a foreign engineer for the control of the works provided for under Article 66 of the Act of Algeciras has assumed an exaggerated importance, the views of the German and Austro-Hungarian Governments were decidedly declared against the nomination by the foreign Representatives here of a Frenchman for the first post and a Spaniard for the second, but at times the attitude of the German Government appeared to be less decided.

As I reported in my despatches No. 169 of the 1st instant and No. 173 of the 4th instant, the Representatives of Germany and Austria-Hungary made no opposition to the candidature of the French and Spanish when presented—indeed, the Austrian Minister frankly declared in favour of these candidates.

It was not astonishing that this change of attitude caused some surprise, and I have endeavoured to ascertain the cause of it.

Passing events, no doubt, caused some misgivings in the mind of the Sultan as to the efficacy of German support, and apparently the two above-mentioned Governments realized that the Sultan no longer desired to support the Belgian candidature, which appeared to have but little chance of success. In view of this fact the German and Austrian Governments decided that it was useless to support a candidature that seemed hopeless, and that it was more politic to offer no resistance to the nomination of the French and Spanish engineers.

I am informed that in a note which has recently been sent to Cid Mohammed Torres from the Court he was instructed to do nothing to promote the candidature of the Belgian. This note was, however, received after the nomination had taken place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[19860] No. 164.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 17.)

(No. 176.)

Tangier, *June* 7, 1907.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida, reporting that a considerable improvement has taken place in the situation at Marakesh.

Mr. Lennox is leaving here for the south, and proposes to return to Marakesh if the news as to the situation there continues good.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received another despatch from Mr. Madden, which I inclose herewith, and from which you will see that, although the situation is said to have much improved, the new Governor has not yet been able to muster sufficient force or courage to attempt to reach Morocco City, and remains at Saffi.

G. L.

Inclosure 1 in No. 164.

Consul Madden to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 99.)

Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, June* 1, 1907.

THE latest news from Morocco City is of a favourable nature, and everything is reported to be quiet at that place. The German residents have been going outside the city as in normal times, the Arabs taking no notice of them whatever.

The projected big tribal meeting at Ben Grier has, the German Consul tells me, not taken place; it has apparently been countermanded.

The reports in circulation regarding His Majesty the Sultan's preparations for a move from Fez have produced a very good effect, it is said, in the south.

As regards the mission of inquiry to Morocco City by the French Consul at Mogador, I learn it is not expected to be undertaken before September or later in the autumn.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. MADDEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 164.

Consul Madden to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 100.)

Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, June* 4, 1907.

THE German Consul informs me that he has received news from the German Consular Agent at Morocco City to the effect that some of the members of the British colony who recently left the city returned there on the 31st May; he added he had learnt from the same authority that the demeanour of the people towards Christians has greatly improved of late.

According to some opinions, it was tribesmen in the town rather than the townspeople themselves who lately showed insolence to Europeans.

It is said that the northern tribes of Rahamna have lately declared their loyalty to the Sultan, and intend to commence hostilities against the southern tribes as being the instigators of the recent effervescence.

Bel Ghazi, the newly-appointed Basha of Morocco City, still remains at Saffi.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. M. MADDEN.

[19863] No. 165.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 17.)

(No. 179.)

Sir, *Tangier, June* 7, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 152 of the 20th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a note from Sid Mohammed Torres to the doyen of the Corps Diplomatique, informing him that the Sultan has agreed to the *ad valorem* statistical and weighing due on goods transported between Moroccan ports by coasting vessels being reduced from 1 to ¾ per cent. This rate is to remain in force for two years, after which the Sultan will, after consultation with the Corps Diplomatique, consider whether it shall be advanced to 1 per cent.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 165.

Sid Mohammed Torres to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps.

(Traduction.) *Tanger, le* 24 *Rabih II,* 1325.

A SON Excellence le cher, instruit, et honorable Ministre de Portugal et doyen du cher Corps Diplomatique, M. le Comte de Martens Ferrão; notre désir est que vous vous portiez toujours bien.

La présente a pour but d'informer votre Excellence que notre maître, que Dieu glorifie, est d'accord pour le paiement de ¾ de Douro pour cent *ad valorem* sur les marchandises exportées entre un port et l'autre du pays honoré, en remplacement de le 1 pour cent comme il avait ordonné avant.

Cela pour un délai de deux ans, après lesquels le Sultan examinera de compléter le 1 pour cent, après délibération avec le cher Corps Diplomatique.

Nous vous en tenons au courant pour votre Gouvernement, et afin que vous le communiquiez à vos collègues, ainsi qu'à vos ressortissants, pour qu'ils aillent d'accord avec les administrateurs des douanes, auxquels ordre a été donné à l'effet, ainsi que pour rendre le ¼ de Douro à ceux qui l'ont payé.

Restez en bien et tranquillité.

(Signé) MOHAMMED-BEN-ELARBI TORRES.

[19864] No. 166.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 17.)

(No. 180.)

Sir, *Tangier, June* 9, 1907.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 102 of the 16th April and your reply No. 68 of the 2nd May, I have the honour to report that at yesterday's meeting of the foreign Representatives, the German Chargé d'Affaires suggested the advisability of its being clearly laid down in the scheme for the composition of the Special Tribunal to be established to decide actions brought against the State Bank of Morocco what lawyers should be allowed to plead, and also recommended a decision regarding the election of the President of that Tribunal.

A fresh scheme was consequently drawn up and approved by all the foreign Representatives, which I have the honour to inclose herewith, and which I trust will meet with your approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 166.

Agreement respecting the Application of Article 45 *of the Algeciras General Act.*

LE Tribunal, institué par l'Article 45, paragraphe 2, de l'Acte Général d'Algésiras, est composé de trois Magistrats Consulaires et de deux Assesseurs, auxquels sont adjoints, pour le cas de vacance, trois Magistrats suppléants et deux Assesseurs suppléants.

La désignation des trois Magistrats titulaires et des deux Assesseurs titulaires, puis des trois Magistrats suppléants et des deux Assesseurs suppléants, s'effectuera successivement chaque année, à raison d'un seul membre, titulaire ou suppléant, par pays, en suivant l'ordre alphabétique des Puissances Européennes signataires de l'Acte Général.

Le sort désigne pour la première année la Puissance appelée à commencer l'ordre alphabétique.

L'année suivante la liste est reprise après les trois Puissances qui ont désigné les trois Magistrats titulaires et ainsi de suite.

Chaque année, dans la première quinzaine de Décembre, le Corps Diplomatique, conformément aux règles ci-dessus, établit la composition du Tribunal, qui restera en fonction pendant l'année suivante.

Le Président sera élu par les membres du Tribunal. Il désigne le Greffier et le personnel secondaire du Tribunal.

Les avocats autorisés à plaider devant les Tribunaux Consulaires de leurs pays respectifs sont admis à représenter les parties et à plaider devant le Tribunal Spécial.

Si, pour une cause quelconque, une Puissance appelée à faire une désignation n'est pas en mesure d'y procéder, elle perd son droit pour cette fois et le tour passe à la Puissance rangée alphabétiquement après elle.

Le Gouvernement des États-Unis d'Amérique, qui n'a pas participé à la constitution de la Banque d'État, ayant résolu de ne pas exercer son droit de désignation, le Corps Diplomatique prend acte de sa décision.

[19866] No. 167.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 17.)

(No. 182.)

Tangier, June 10, 1907.

Sir,

ARTICLE 4 of the Act of Algeciras provides that the Regulations for the working of the recruiting, discipline, instruction, and administration of the new police force shall be drawn up by common agreement between the Shereefian Minister of War or his delegate, the Inspector, referred to in Article 7, and the French and Spanish Instructors of the highest rank, and that these Regulations shall be submitted to the Diplomatic Body here, which shall formulate its opinion within one month.

These Regulations have now been drawn up and submitted to the Diplomatic Corps in a letter from the Inspector-General, which has been communicated to us by the Doyen.

I have the honour to inclose herewith this letter and the Regulations.*

It will be observed that the decisions arrived at are not strictly in accord with the Act of Algeciras, the Moorish Minister of War being desirous of establishing once and for all the extent of the liability of the Makhzen regarding the police.

This is fully explained in the initial chapter of the "Règlement," entitled "Rapport sur le Budget des Troupes de Police."

The foreign Representatives have examined the Regulations, and, subject to the approval of their respective Governments, have accepted them. The formal acceptance, as observed above, must be given within one month dating from to-day, and for this authorization I beg your instructions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 167.

Inspector-General Muller to Doyen of Diplomatic Corps.

[*Non datée.*]

M. le Doyen,

CONFORMÉMENT aux prescriptions de l'Article 4 de l'Acte d'Algésiras, les dispositions réglementaires propres à assurer le recrutement, la discipline, l'instruction, et l'administration des corps de police ont été arrêtées par la composition prévue au même Article, et composée de son Excellence Si Mohammed-el-Guebbas, Ministre de la Guerre Chérifien; le Colonel Muller, Inspecteur-Général; le Commandant Espagnol Santa Olalla, le Commandant Français Mangin.

Cette Commission a été assistée dans ses travaux par les personnages ci-après faisant fonction d'interprète: Ali Zaky Bey, Interprète de son Excellence le Ministre de la Guerre Chérifien; M. Saavedra, Interprète de la Légation d'Espagne; Si Kaddour-ben-Ghabrit, Interprète de la Légation de France.

L'Article 4 de l'Acte d'Algésiras a également prescrit que le Règlement devra être soumis au Corps Diplomatique à Tanger, qui formulera son avis dans le délai d'un mois.

En conséquence j'ai l'honneur d'adresser à votre Excellence, à la date de ce jour, le Règlement avec ses annexes, le tout en onze exemplaires.

Les Articles 1 à 15 inclus ont été arrêtés d'un commun accord par les quatre membres de la Commission.

L'Article 16 vise le Budget de la police. Il contient des propositions formulées

* Regulations not printed.

[19865] No. 166*.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received June 17.)

(No. 181.)

Tangier, June 9, 1907.

Sir,

THE Regulations which have been drafted or which are in your hands providing for adjudication for works undertaken for the "Caisse Spéciale" and for adjudication in general require, by Article 1 of the former and Article 4 of the latter, that Delegates of the Corps Diplomatique should form part of the "Comité Spécial" in one instance and the "Commission Générale" in the other.

A scheme was yesterday drawn up and agreed to by the foreign Representatives for the nomination of these Delegates, which seems to offer all the necessary guarantees for impartiality, and which I have now the honour to submit for your approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 166*.

Scheme drawn up by the Diplomatic Body respecting Nomination of Delegates to "Comité Spécial" and "Commission Générale."

EN ce qui concerne le choix des Délégués du Corps Diplomatique, tant dans le Comité Spécial que dans la Commission Générale des Travaux Publics, il sera procédé de la manière suivante :—

Les Légations des Puissances Signataires de l'Acte d'Algésiras seront rangées pour une période de cinq années d'après l'ordre établi par tirage au sort.

Les sept premières Légations inscrites sur la liste désigneront chacune un Délégué Titulaire. Les cinq premiers Délégués Titulaires seront affectés au Comité Spécial, les deux suivants à la Commission Générale. Les autres Légations désigneront chacune un Délégué Suppléant. Ces Délégués Suppléants seront appelés à tour de rôle pour compléter les Commissions, en cas d'absence des Titulaires.

Les Délégués Titulaires ou Suppléants devront être choisis parmi les fonctionnaires de carrière appartenant au personnel des Légations. En cas de besoin chaque chef de Mission pourra confier les fonctions de Délégué à un fonctionnaire d'une autre Légation.

Le Corps Diplomatique établit chaque année suivant les données qui précèdent la liste des Délégués Titulaires et Suppléants. Au bout de chaque année, la liste est reprise après les sept Puissances qui, l'année précédente, ont désigné les Délégués Titulaires.

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par les trois membres Européens de la Commission et dont les motifs sont exposés dans un rapport particulier annexé au Règlement.

Son Excellence le Ministre de la Guerre Chérifien a déclaré faire toutes réserves au sujet de cet Article.

La traduction Arabe du Règlement a été faite d'un commun accord par les trois interprètes indiqués ci-dessus, qui ont signé cette traduction afin de constater qu'elle est bien conforme au texte rédigé en Français.

Veuillez, &c.
L'Inspecteur-Général de la
Police Chérifienne,
(Signé) MULLER.

[18962]

No. 168.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. G. Lowther.

(No. 98.) *Foreign Office, June* 21, 1907.

Sir,

I HAVE received your despatch No. 167 of the 29th ultimo, inclosing a letter from Messrs. Spinney, in which they request you to hold the Moorish Government responsible for all the losses which they have incurred or may incur during the suspension of their business at Morocco City.

Before deciding whether a claim for compensation should be presented to the Makhzen or not, I should be glad if you would ascertain from your colleagues at Tangier whether similar claims have been put forward by their nationals, and, if so, whether it is intended to afford them diplomatic support.

In the meantime, you should acquaint Messrs. Spinney that you have informed the Moorish Government that the merchants who have sustained commercial losses in the manner indicated will make a claim to be indemnified, and that a further communication will be addressed to them in due course.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. GREY.

[20786]

No. 169.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 24.)

(No. 184.) *Tangier, June* 14, 1907.

Sir,

THE Moorish Government has for some time past been anxious to obtain a loan of some proportions from the State Bank. The original request was for 60,000,000 fr., but this has been reduced to 40,000,000 fr., and I have been frequently informed that this sum was beyond what the State Bank was prepared to grant with the securities available.

The creditors of the Makhzen appeared to have some assurance that this loan would be of the nature of a liquidation loan, but I know of no undertaking on the part of the Makhzen to this effect, though it is to be presumed that the State Bank would require some engagement of the kind.

In my despatch No. 112 of the 18th April last I laid before you an estimate of what I believed to be the present liabilities of the Makhzen. Some of these may be set aside as not being pressing, but, on the other hand, the Sultan requires large sums to meet his immediate wants. Even the sums required from the State Bank for the introduction of the police do not appear to have been forthcoming, the Bank declaring that until the new police was in force no money could be advanced. This view would seem to be somewhat unreasonable, the Sultan having no means with which to pay for the immediate requirements of the police.

The question has, I understand, been settled for the moment by the promise of an advance of 1,000,000 fr. But the foreign creditors of the Makhzen are now demanding some guarantee that if a loan is forthcoming their debts should be paid, and the British bankers here, Moses Pariente, have addressed to me two letters on this subject, which I inclose herewith. Similar letters have been addressed by German and French commercial houses to their respective Legations.

I do not know how far these creditors may be considered to be in a privileged

position as regards payment, if any funds are forthcoming, and I consequently venture to request your instructions as to what action I should take as regards the Makhzen and the Bank in the matter. My French and German colleagues both assert that they consider that, in the event of the Makhzen obtaining a large loan, all the debts of the foreign claimants should be paid, but, as I pointed out in my despatch No. 112, my estimate of the liabilities of the Makhzen amounted to 44,049,500 fr., whereas there is no question whatever of their being able to obtain for the present more than 40,000,000 fr. as a maximum.

The State Bank have succeeded in obtaining from the Makhzen an engagement to hand over to the Bank the 40 per cent. remaining of the customs revenue after the payment of the interest due on the French Loan of 1904, but until foreign control of the customs is established this loan can only produce a very moderate amount.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 169.

Moses Pariente to Mr. G. Lowther.

Tangier, June 6, 1907.

Dear Mr. Lowther,

I TAKE the liberty to inform you that I hear on good authority that Cid Mohammed Zniber, the Moorish Delegate at the Banque d'État, who is negotiating the Moorish loan, has received instructions from Fez to ask for the present only for a loan of 40,000,000 fr. It seems that the Makhzen want this money for themselves, and have no intention of paying their debts.

I therefore request your Excellency to take such steps as you may deem convenient, in order that, in case the Makhzen secures the loan, that there is no delay in paying off their liabilities.

If, indeed, the loan is carried out and the Makhzen refuses paying us, we will be justified in putting an embargo on the money at the Banque d'État, and I am ready to carry out any formality required for same.

(Moses Pariente Bank, Tangier)
(Signed) ABENSUR.

Inclosure 2 in No. 169.

Moses Pariente to Mr. G. Lowther.

Tangier, June 13, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter of the 6th instant to your Excellency, with regard to the money owed to me by the Moorish Government for silver and bronze coins, lead, lighters, steamer, musical instruments, coals, charters, &c., amounting in all to 1,254,547 fr. 96 c. up to the 30th April last, interests included, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that I understand the Moorish Delegates at the Banque d'État, who are negotiating the Moorish loan of 60,000,000 fr., have received instructions from the Court at Fez to ask for the present a loan of 40,000,000 fr. only, and I hear from good authority that the reason why the Moorish Government reduced the amount is because they have the intention of taking the money for themselves without paying their creditors.

It is very important not to lose sight of the fact that the only resources left to the Moorish Government for the present are confined to the 40 per cent. still free of the Customs, and under these circumstances I respectfully request your Excellency to take such steps as you may deem necessary, so that the Moorish Government may not dispose for mortgage such resources, but only on condition that the above amount and interest is paid to me without delay out of any amount of money they receive.

Thanking your Excellency for your kind and valuable assistance, I am, &c.
(Signed) MOSES PARIENTE.

[20787]

No. 170.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 24.)

(No. 185.)

Tangier, June 14, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 180 of the 9th instant relative to the composition of the Special Tribunal to decide actions brought against the State Bank of Morocco, I have the honour to report that upon drawing lots it has fallen to Germany to commence the alphabetical order of the Powers who are to designate the Magistrates to serve on the Tribunal.

Accordingly for this year the three Magistrates will be named by Germany, Austria, and Belgium, while the Assessors will be designated by Spain and France, the substituting Magistrates being selected by Great Britain, Italy, and Holland, while the substituting Assessors will be selected by Portugal and Russia.

It is understood that the Magistrates must be officials belonging to the Legation or Consulate, but Assessors can be chosen from amongst merchants or residents.

With your approval I propose to name Mr. White as substituting Magistrate in the event of his services being required.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[20789]

No. 171.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 24.)

(No. 187.)

Tangier, June 14, 1907.

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 117 of the 23rd April and to other correspondence regarding the contract for the construction of the drainage works here, I have the honour to report that the matter, owing to the illness of Dr. Rosen and to other causes, has only recently come up again for discussion.

A short exchange of views took place at a meeting of the Sanitary Council on the 1st instant, and it was unanimously decided that a special Committee should be appointed to examine the question and report as to the best mode of solution. This Committee consisted of the Austro-Hungarian Minister, who was President of the Sanitary Council in April last when the authorization under discussion had been granted, the Netherlands Minister, who has only recently been appointed here, and myself.

We made a very careful examination of the whole question, the site, and all available plans, and it became quite clear that the German engineers had, in combination with the Makhzen authorities, taken advantage of a somewhat loosely-worded authorization given by the "Conseil Sanitaire" to magnify the original scheme for the drainage works.

It was also evident that no estimate had ever been presented by the German contractors to the "Commission d'Hygiène" or to the "Conseil Sanitaire" for the carrying out of the work designated on the plan that had been presented to the "Conseil Sanitaire," and it was equally clear that the latter body had, in authorizing Hadj Mohammed Torres to come to some arrangement with M. Renchausen ("s'entendre avec"), only intended that the work which had been represented as urgent should be carried out and anticipated that a definite contract would be duly presented. No authority whatever had been given for the second scheme for 25,480*l.*, and still less for the still more comprehensive scheme of 36,000*l.*

M. Renchausen maintains that there never were more than two plans, namely, the two above mentioned, marked Nos. 2 and 3, but three plans have been in our hands, of which I inclose herewith photographs.* These plans cover respectively a superficies of 15,525, 29,875, and 51,235 square metres. The original of the plan, received in April 1906 by the "Conseil Sanitaire" and sent by that body to Hadj Mohammed Torres, is not forthcoming. That official states that, as it was sent to Fez a year ago, it would be very difficult to recover it now.

At a meeting of the Sanitary Council, held on the 10th instant, the Netherlands Minister, speaking on behalf of the Special Committee, explained all the above, but we

* Not reproduced.

were not entirely agreed as to the solution to be found, the Netherlands Minister being of opinion that M. Renchausen, the German contractor, should practically be guaranteed the entire work, although it might be put to adjudication for the matter of form, whereas the Austro-Hungarian Minister and myself were of opinion that the Sanitary Council had not in any way committed itself to the Makhzen or M. Renchausen beyond the work declared as urgent.

The German Chargé d'Affaires, departing entirely from the attitude which has hitherto been assumed in the matter by Dr. Rosen, declared that, although he was only speaking in his own name and still awaited instructions, he claimed for German industry the right of executing works in the immediate neighbourhood of the mole, and apparently no longer put forward the claim for Germany to execute all the works of the port of Tangier, a claim that had been maintained by Dr. Rosen. He added that, apart from this point, his view was that the principle of adjudication must be applied.

Eventually the meeting decided unanimously to invite the Governor of Gibraltar to request, on behalf of the Sanitary Council, an engineer officer to draw up a drainage scheme, together with the "terre-plein" and a road on the most economical lines, and with a view to rapid execution, and to furnish an estimate of the same. The Governor of Gibraltar has consented to send an officer for this purpose.

When this is done it is proposed to inform the Makhzen that they may arrange with M. Renchausen on these lines, and the large scheme will eventually be submitted to adjudication.

It was also decided to address a letter to Hadj Mohammed Torres to make no final arrangements regarding the construction of the drainage in question. A copy of this note is inclosed herewith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 171.

Joint Note addressed to Sid Mohammed Torres.

(Compliments d'usage.) *Tanger, le* 10 *Juin*, 1907.

NOUS avons reçu votre lettre du 13 Chaoual, 1324, contenant des propositions relatives à l'établissement d'un égout collecteur à Tanger.

Nous vous prions de ne rien conclure et de ne pas permettre de commencer l'exécution d'un travail à ce sujet, qui touche à l'Acte d'Algésiras, lequel, comme vous le savez, soumet au principe de l'adjudication tous les travaux publics à exécuter dans l'Empire.

En conséquence, il y a lieu de considérer que le projet dont parle votre lettre du 13 Chaoual ne répond pas aux intentions manifestées dès le début de l'affaire par le Conseil Sanitaire. Notre lettre du 5 Mai, 1906, n'avait en effet en vue qu'un travail réduit et urgent et de nature à sauvegarder la santé publique.

[20790] No. 172.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 24.)

(No. 188.)
Sir, *Tangier, June* 15, 1907.

THE scheme for the nomination of the Delegates of the Corps Diplomatique on the Comité spécial and on the Commission Générale, provided for by the Regulations governing adjudication, required that an order of the foreign Legations, namely, by lot, be established, as reported in my despatch No. 181 of the 9th instant.

This drawing has now taken place, and resulted as follows:—

Great Britain.	Italy.
France.	United States.
Austria-Hungary.	Spain.
Netherlands.	Portugal.
Belgium.	Russia.
Germany.	

The first five on this list consequently name the Delegates for the Comité spécial, which is established by Article 1 of the Regulation concerning adjudication for works to be paid for by the Caisse spéciale.

Subject to your sanction, I propose to nominate Mr. Rattigan, Third Secretary to this Legation, as the British Delegate for this year.

Germany and Italy will send Representatives to the Commission Générale des Adjudications (Article 4, General Adjudication "Règlement"), and the United States, Spain, Portugal, and Italy will furnish substitutes in case of necessity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[20791] No. 173.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June* 24.)

(No. 189.)
Sir, *Tangier, June* 15, 1907.

MR. LENNOX, the British Consular Agent, not having yet returned to Morocco city, it is difficult to obtain reliable news as to how matters are proceeding there. I have, however, received a letter from a British protégé of position, Mohammed Ben Boubker Ghanjowy, which depicts a very unsettled state of affairs.

I inclose herewith a translation of this letter. Its contents are confirmed by the news which has reached the French Legation from a citizen who remained there when most of the Europeans left. It is impossible to say how far these tribes are agreed in their demands.

I understand that two British missionaries have returned to Marrakesh, though I have no official knowledge of this fact.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 173.

Letter addressed by Ben Boubker Ghanjowy to Mr. G. Lowther.

Marrakesh, June 5, 1907.

(Translation.)

TO-DAY, the 23rd Rabia II (5th June), the Rahamna tribe to the number of 800 horsemen, with Seraghna, Zimran, Aitmur, Menebha, Herbil, Oolad Dlim, Ahmer, and others have posted themselves outside Marrakesh, in the Ben Doodi garden, at about half-an-hour from the town, and sent in to the Sultan's Viceroy Mulai Hafid to say that "the matter about which we spoke to you before we now want settled. The first point is that the prisons be emptied of the prisoners, then that the Europeans leave the city, that Jews remove their slippers and not go through the town riding, and that the Morocco city people vacate the houses and properties belonging to them (the tribes) which were sold to them by the Sultan through Hamed-ben-Moussa. If we obtain these demands, well and good, otherwise we will enter the town, and there will be fighting, and the protégés will have to produce their certificates for us to burn them." Matters are very difficult for Mulai Hafid and for the townspeople. Mulai Hafid sent to the Khalifa Hadj Abdselam-el-Warzazi and asked him what was to be done, and he answered, "You will hear nothing from me, either much or little; I have received a Sultan's letter telling me that I am dismissed, and a dismissed official can do nothing, and has nothing to do with affairs. I have paid some one to arrange between the people until the Governor Ben Ghazi arrives, when I will deliver the keys of the town and the prison to him, and I will resign, especially as I am ill." The townspeople are in great straits, as there is no one here to deal with the people—a Governor or any one to take charge of matters—and the Jews and the people of the foreign Powers are in a difficult position; consequently, if the Mahommedans could manage it, they would escape from the town, especially the Jews and protégés, as the common people are ignorant, and are speaking badly of the Makhzen, and they say that they will not recognize a Sultan who knows the Christians; this, however, is merely a pretext to get into the town

to pillage, &c. In short, the matter before this was regarded as bluff, but now they see they can only expect tumult and fighting; such a state of things has never been known here before. Affairs are in God's hands, and there is no one here to be relied upon, and possibly the trouble may commence inside the town. The people thought that only Rahamna was in this, but now they find that all the tribes are in concert with them.

[20876] No. 174.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June 24.*)

(No. 191.) *Tangier, June 17, 1907.*

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 189 of the 15th instant, I have the honour to report that I have received information from His Majesty's Consul at Dar-el-Baida to the effect that the tribes gathered round Marakesh have already begun to disperse. Mr. Madden is informed that some 2,000 horsemen, recruited from the Rahamna and other tribes, had encamped in the environs of the city, but the Viceroy is supposed to have them well in hand, and to have instructed them to avoid annoying Europeans, and to maintain good behaviour in the city. The German Consular Agent, however, on riding outside the town, was ordered by a Rahamna tribesman to return within the walls.

The general opinion seems to be that Mulai Hafid is feeling his way, and may attempt a *coup d'état* if the Sultan displays further vacillation. Should His Majesty, however, leave Fez in force, the whole movement, it is thought, would come to an abrupt termination. In the present case it appears that Mulai Hafid told the tribesmen he could say nothing to them, as they had not come in full force. This he is said to have asked them to do at a later date. There does not seem to be any reason for supposing that the gathering had any reference to the Proclamation of Mulai Hafid. It is thought that it may have been occasioned by fear of a foreign invasion. No interference with Europeans has occurred during the time the tribesmen have been encamped round the town, and the demands made by them for the release of prisoners, oppression of Jews, and restrictions of the liberty of Europeans have not been heard of again.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[20877] No. 175.

Mr. G. Lowther to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June 24.*)

(No. 192.) *Tangier, June 18, 1907.*

Sir,

THE British-American Tobacco Company have addressed me a letter, transmitting copy of a letter received by them from the Foreign Office, dated the 7th June, on the subject of the impending tobacco monopoly in this country, and asking me to give them information as to the monopoly and the terms upon which they could join with the other participants.

The French Minister has never at any time suggested to me the advisability of the participation of an English with a French group in tendering for this monopoly, and it is obviously difficult for me to ascertain from the French groups here the terms upon which a British group or firm would be admitted to join.

I have asked the French Chargé d'Affaires here for information on the subject, and he replied that in a general manner his Government had thought it advisable that British capital should be associated with French interests here in this matter, but he was unable to indicate to me any person or persons here to which a British firm anxious to participate could address themselves, and he advised that they should make inquiries of the "Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas," which institution, though not, he believed, participating in this business, was yet deeply interested in the finances of this country, and could probably furnish all the necessary information. I inclose a copy of the reply I have sent to the British-American Tobacco Company.

There is, of course, no objection to this firm tendering on its own account, should

it be in possession of sufficient data to do so, and the language of the French Chargé d'Affaires leads me to suppose that the desire of the French for a British participation is less pronounced than it was some weeks ago.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

Inclosure in No. 175.

Mr. G. Lowther to British-American Tobacco Company.

Tangier, June 18, 1907.

Sir,

I AM in receipt of your letter of the 11th instant on the subject of the intention of the Moorish Government to create a tobacco monopoly.

The "Cahier des Charges" which has been drawn up has been sent to Fez for approval by the Moorish Government, and is, as Sir Eric Barrington states to you, expected shortly to be published.

The question of the terms upon which you could join other Companies that are proposing to tender is obviously a very delicate one, and one that could only be treated by parties directly interested and eventually on the spot. The Companies that are likely to tender have no doubt already carefully considered the offers they are disposed to make.

It must be for you to decide whether to await the publication of the "Cahier des Charges" or to send out at once a representative here to study the question on the spot. In the first instance it would, perhaps, be advisable to consult the "Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas" in Paris, which institution is, I understand, if not directly interested in the affair, in any case fully informed regarding it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GERARD LOWTHER.

[20866] No. 176.

Sir G. Bonham to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received June 24.*)

(No. 29.) *Berne, June 20, 1907.*

Sir,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 23 of the 8th April, I have the honour to report that the Spanish Minister, the Marquis Prat de Nantouillet, informed me a few days ago that he had put some pressure on the Federal Government to obtain the consent of the National Council to the adoption by the Federal Tribunal of the duties assigned to it by the Conference at Algeciras, going so far as to use the threat that Colonel Armin Müller would not receive any of his salary until the question had been settled. The consent of the Council of State was, in fact, obtained at the commencement of the Session, but that of the National Council has been delayed till yesterday.

President Müller, in speaking to me of Captain Fischer's recall, told me that he himself had always had some doubt as to his suitability for the post.

He had, however, shown himself extremely wanting in tact, and Colonel Müller, finding him in many ways unsuitable, had decided on dismissing him. His Excellency did not mention who would be his successor.

He hoped, now that the Regulations had been passed by the Diplomatic Body, greater progress would be made with the formation of the gendarmerie.

I have the honour to transmit copies of an extract from the "Journal de Genève,"* giving an abstract of the proceedings in the National Council when the Act of Algeciras was brought before it in order that Articles 45 and 46 relating to the jurisdiction of the Federal Tribunal might be ratified, the question relating to the Inspectorship of Police having been decided by the Federal Government.

President Müller defends the action of the Government in accepting the mandate conferred on it by the other Powers, and after alluding to the difficulty relating to Captain Fischer, the importance of which, he said, should not be exaggerated, and to the question relating to the Federal Tribunal, remarking that the new jurisdiction would

* Not printed.

not, in his opinion, greatly increase its labours, he concluded by stating that the Act of Algeciras has done more for the recognition of Swiss neutrality and independence than all the previous guarantees.

The proposal was then voted by a large majority.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. BONHAM.

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